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JIRO MATSUMOTO

IKKICOMIX

第25話 CHAT #25 MEETING 003
第26話 CHAT #26 ACCOUNTS SETTLING 027
第27話 CHAT #27 AUDIT INTERNAL 055
第28話 CHAT #28 ROOKIES TRAINING 083
第29話 CHAT #29 INSURANCE SOCIAL 109
第30話 CHAT #30 DISCHARGE DISHONORABLE 137
第31話 CHAT #31 HARD LABOR 165

5

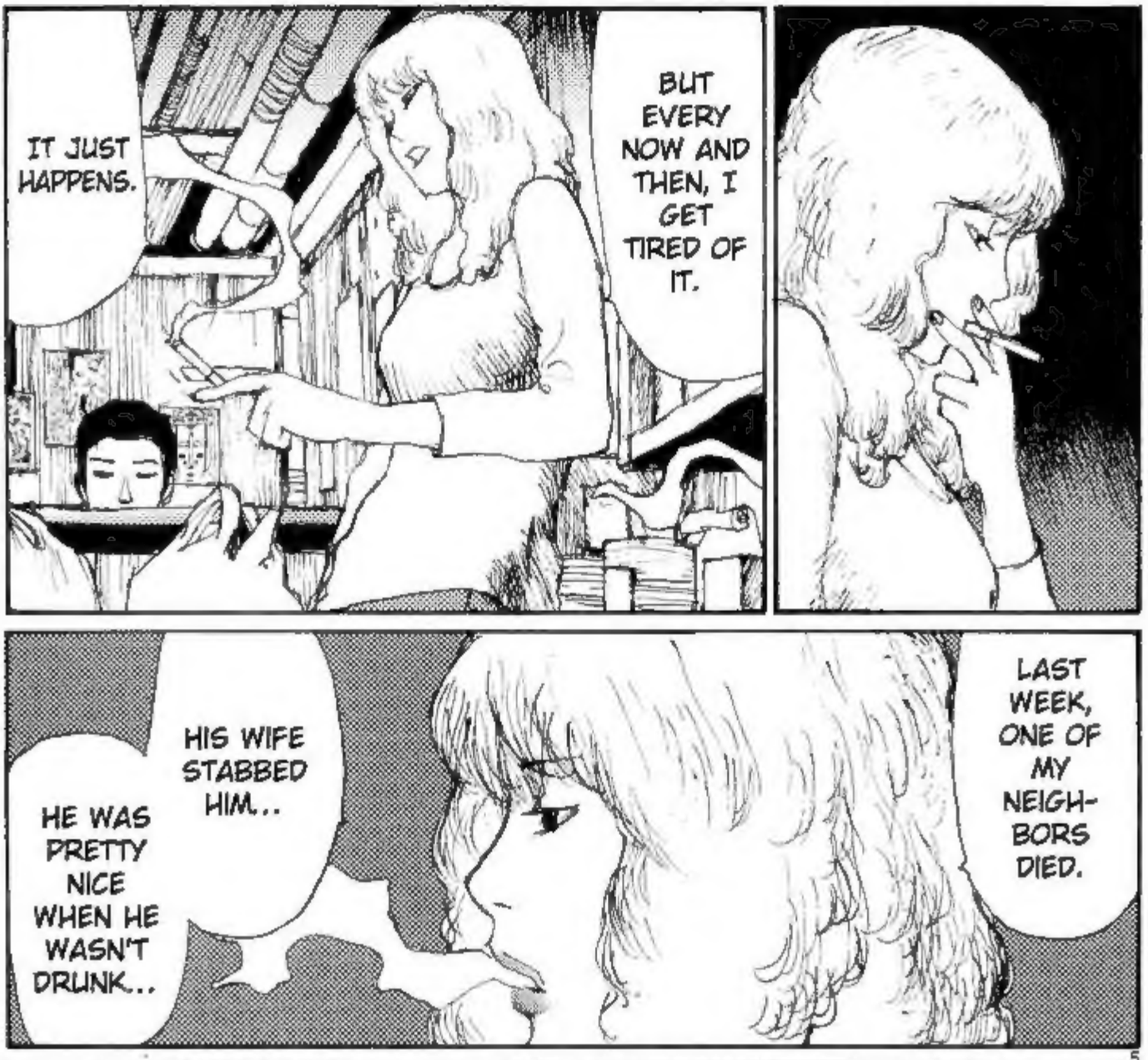
Chat #25 = Meeting

IT'S THAT SAME FEELING I GOT ON THE STREET NEAR THE FACTORY...
HE WAS THERE AT THAT TIME.
WHY ISN'T HE DOING ANY-THING?
IS HE JUST KEEPING WATCH ...?
SO HE'S AN ENFORCER ...?
HERE, IT'S ON THE HOUSE.
THUNK
ARE YOU GOING TO SIT THERE QUIETLY FOREVER ?
WHO THE HELL IS HE, ANYWAY ?
IT DOESN'T FEEL LIKE HE'S HERE TO KILL, THOUGH ...

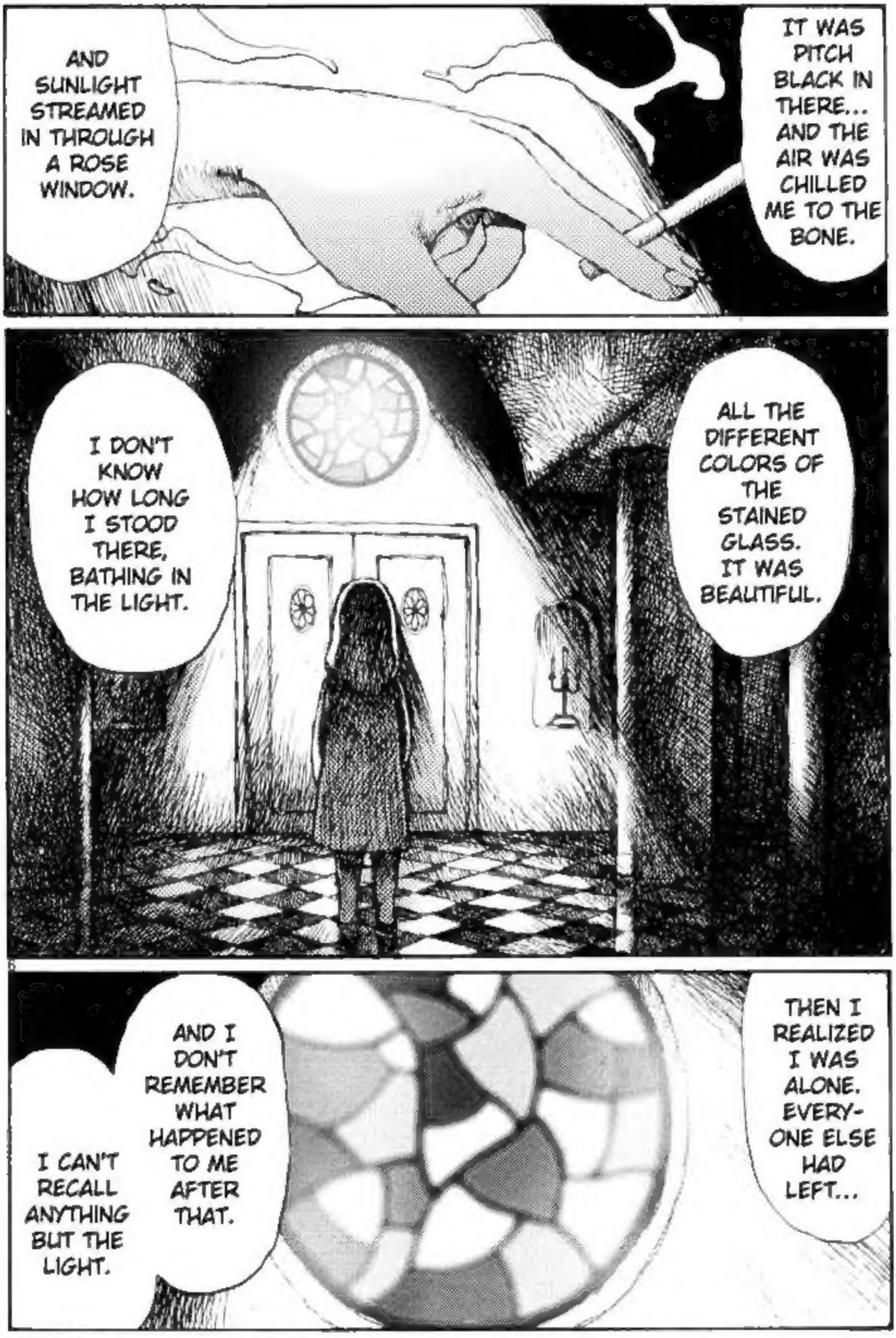
IT'S AS BAD AS WHEN I'M HERE ALONE.
OUR BESPECTACLED FRIEND OVER THERE SEEMS INCLINED TO DO THE SAME...
HUH ?
SO... DO YOU HAVE FAMILY AROUND HERE?
... YOU HAVE A POINT.
YEAH, IN A MUNICIPAL APARTMENT.
AND YOU'RE LIVING TOGETHER ?
MY PARENTS AND A BROTHER ...
AHH.. YES, I DO.

NOTE: 2DK - APARTMENT WITH 2 BEDROOMS, DINING ROOM AND KITCHEN.

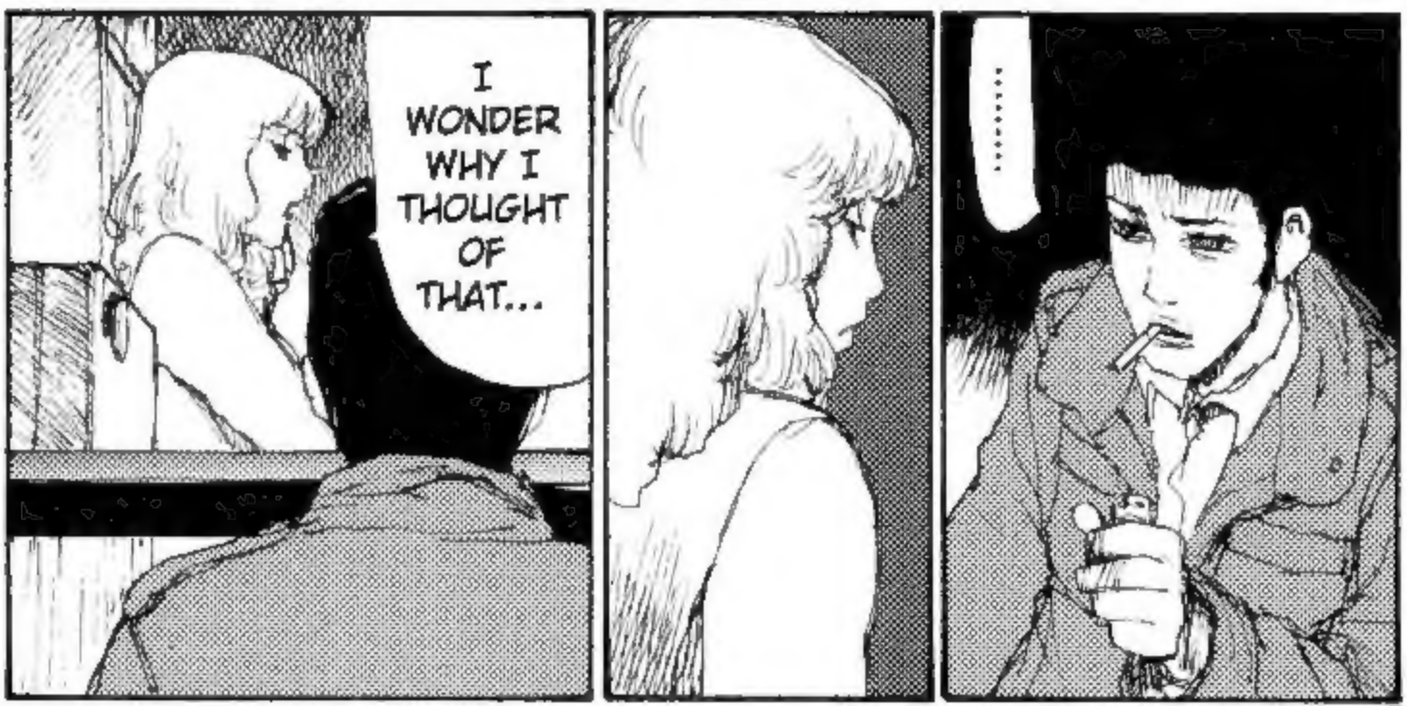
IT'S PRETTY CRAMPED, SO MY MUM IS ALWAYS TELLING ME TO FIND A MAN AND MOVE OUT.
4 OF US IN A RUN-DOWN 2DK.
NO, NOT REALLY.
OH... IT MUST BE HARD.
AND I'M BRINGING SOME MONEY HOME AND HELPING TO LOOK AFTER THE FAMILY.
HE FIGURES I NEED SOME SPACE... SO HE LEAVES THE ROOM TO ME AND STUDIES IN THE CLOSET.
ESPE-CIALLY MY LI'L BRO. HE'S IN MIDDLE SCHOOL.
I LIKE MY FAMILY.
I QUITE LIKE MY LIFE RIGHT NOW, YOU COULD SAY.


IT JUST HAPPENS.
BUT EVERY NOW AND THEN, I GET TIRED OF IT.
LAST WEEK, ONE OF MY NEIGH-BORS DIED.
HIS WIFE STABBED HIM...
HE WAS PRETTY NICE WHEN HE WASN'T DRUNK...

WE JUST FOUND A BUILDING AND WENT IN.
WE WENT FOR A PICNIC.
I CAN STILL REMEMBER ONE TIME...
WHEN I WAS YOUNG, I USED TO PLAY WITH HIM.
I DIDN'T WANT TO TALK ABOUT HIS DEATH.
BUT WHAT-EVER.


IT WAS PITCH BLACK IN THERE... AND THE AIR WAS CHILLED ME TO THE BONE.
AND SUNLIGHT STREAMED IN THROUGH A ROSE WINDOW.
ALL THE DIFFERENT COLORS OF THE STAINED GLASS. IT WAS BEAUTIFUL.
I DON'T KNOW HOW LONG I STOOD THERE, BATHING IN THE LIGHT.
THEN I REALIZED I WAS ALONE. EVERY-ONE ELSE HAD LEFT...
AND I DON'T REMEMBER WHAT HAPPENED TO ME AFTER THAT.
I CAN'T RECALL ANYTHING BUT THE LIGHT.

SOME-
TIMES, I
WONDER
IF IT
WAS
JUST A
DREAM.
MAYBE I
SAW IT IN A
PICTURE
AND MIXED
IT UP WITH
REAL LIFE...


I
WONDER
WHY I
THOUGHT
OF
THAT...
.....

IF IT WAS
A DREAM,
IF THAT
WINDOW
WASN'T
REAL.
MAYBE
IT'D BE
BETTER
...
I'M
SORRY.
I
GUESS.
HE'S DEAD
NOW...
THOUGH IT
DOESN'T
REALLY
MATTER..

WHEN A DREAM BECOMES REAL, IT GETS COR-RUPTED.
WE'RE NEVER SATISFIED WITH REALITY, ARE WE?
AFTER ALL...
DON'T YOU THINK SO?
SO DREAMS SHOULD JUST STAY AS DREAMS ...
THAT'S BETTER ...
... I SUPPOSE ...

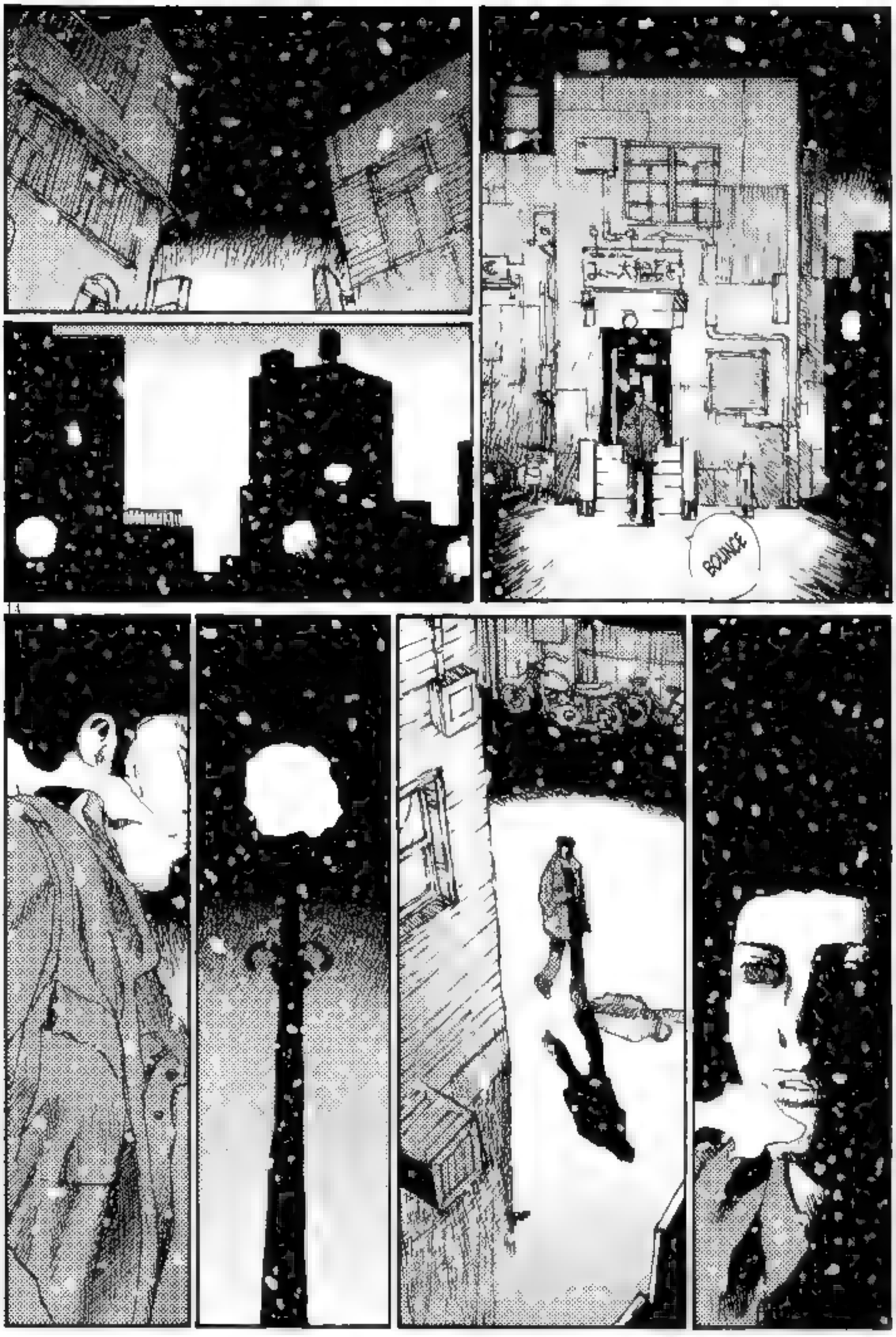
HEY ...
IT'S YOUR FIRST TIME HERE ...
ISN'T IT?
I FEEL AS IF...
I'VE TALKED TO YOU BEFORE.
CLATTER
I WONDER WHY--
.....
CLINK

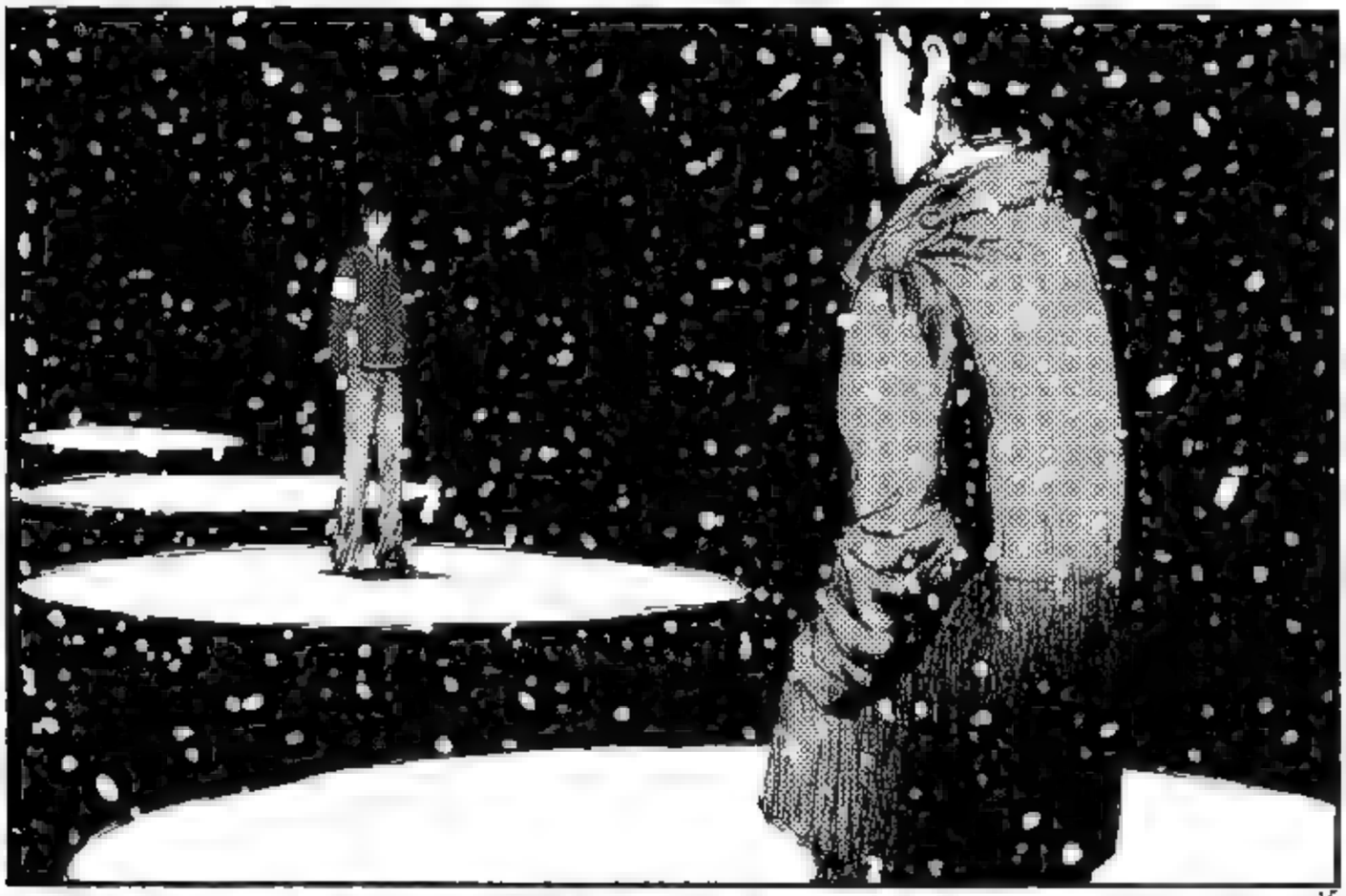
THE STEW IS ALMOST READY ...
YOU'RE LEAVING ALREADY ?
YOU SEE?
I DON'T HAVE TO WAIT ANY MORE ...
I'VE GOT...
SOME WORK TO DO.
ALL THE BEST FOR YOUR WORK ...
A-- ANY WAY ...
WELL, YOU PROBABLY DON'T SEE.

THUD THUD THUD
SLAM
TCHAK
I SHOULD GO TOO.
BUBBLE
BUBBLE BUBBLE
BUBBLE
BUBBLE
BUBBLE
BUBBLE
BUBBLE
BUBBLE

I ALSO HAVE SOME-THING TO DO.
YOU'RE KIDDING, RIGHT?
HUH? WHY!?
I DON'T GET IT.
.....
I DID.
TCHAK
WEREN'T YOU SUPPOSED TO MEET SOMEONE HERE?
ONE OF MY FRIENDS ONCE SAID...
OH YES.
COME AGAIN!

TO BE ALIVE.
THAT IT'S GOOD...
WHAT ?
I'M GLAD I MET YOU.
SLAM
GOOD BYE.


BOUNCE



THERE YOU ARE...

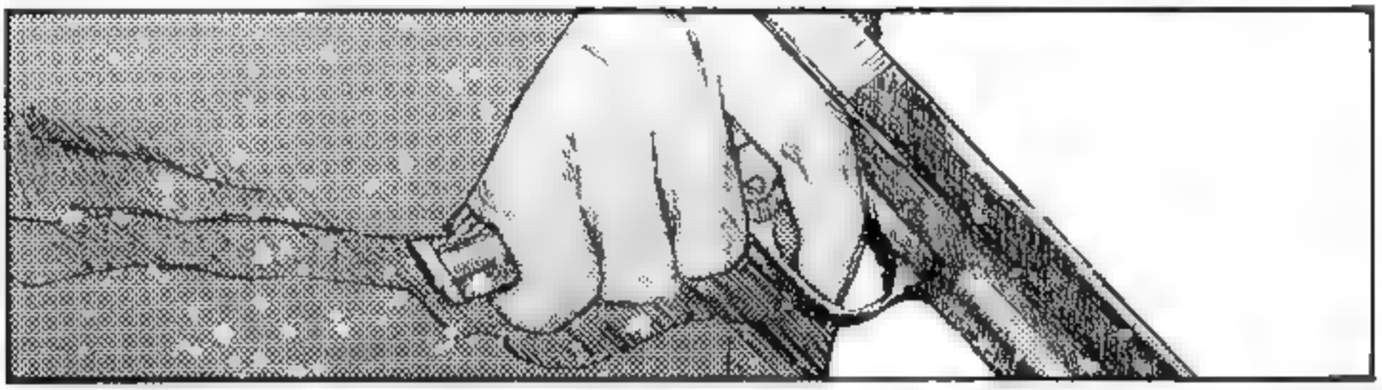
THOUGH YOU COULD HAVE TAKEN ME OUT EASILY.
YOU DIDN'T DO ANYTHING IN THE STREET NEAR THE FACTORY AND YOU DIDN'T DO ANYTHING JUST NOW...
BUT YOU WERE CONFUSED AND DIDN'T KNOW WHAT TO DO.
I WANTED TO TALK TO YOU...
THE FRIEND THAT I TALK TO DISAP-PEARED.
I DIDN'T DO IT BECAUSE I COULDN'T.
WHAT TO DO EITHER.
AND SO I DIDN'T KNOW...

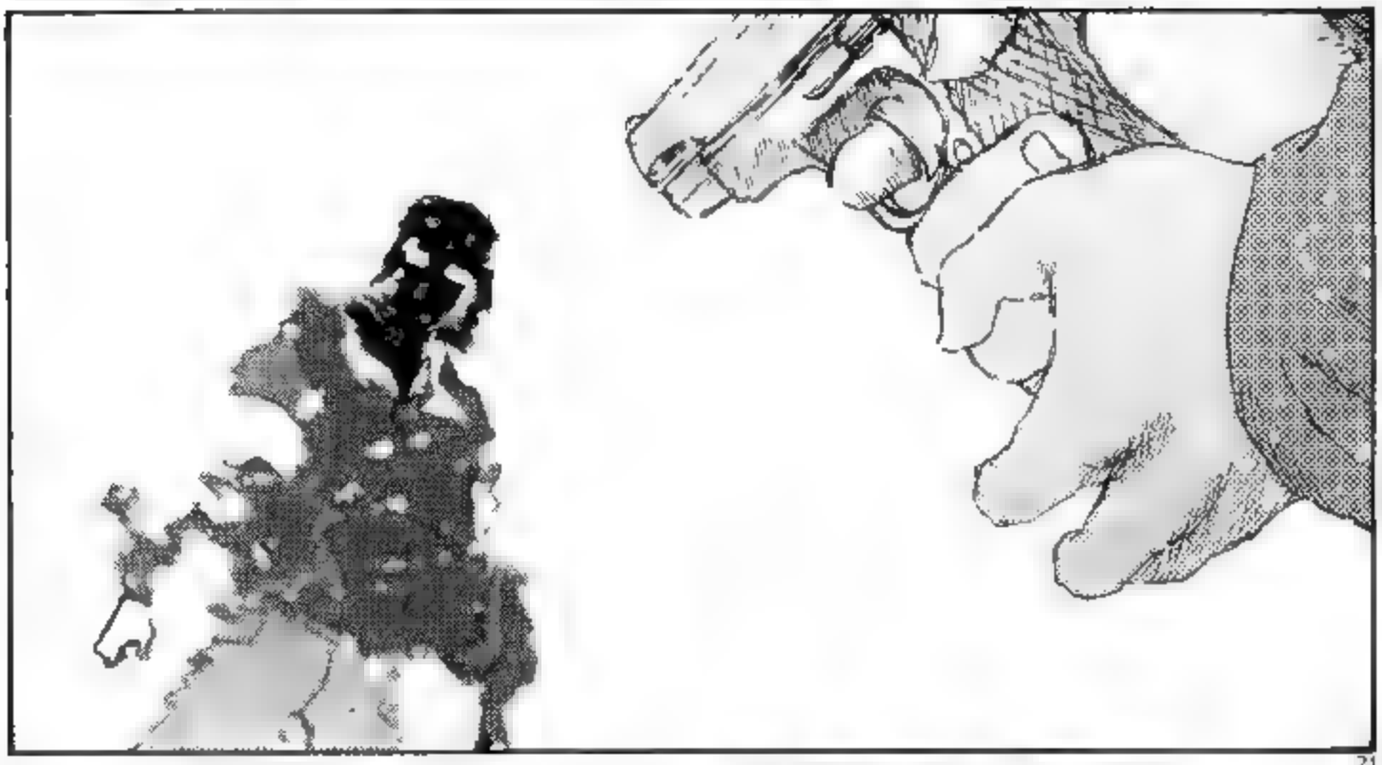
YOUR CONFU-SION DIS-APPEARED AFTER TALKING TO KOTOMI.
BUT NOW YOU'VE DECIDED WHAT YOU WANT.
WHAT ARE YOU SAYING ?
I'LL GET YOU BEFORE YOU GET ME.
AND TO PROVE THAT ...
I DON'T PLAN ON DYING.

IT'S JUST THAT...
I DON'T HAVE MUCH CONFIDENCE OF WINNING.
... I GUESS NOT.
YOU LACK SOME-THING, SO YOU WOULDN'T UNDER-STAND.
.....
I DON'T GET YOU.
BUT EVEN SO...
I'M GOING TO TRY.
I WAS JUST LIKE YOU.
A SHORT WHILE AGO...

TO FIND THAT SOME-THING TOO.
YOU HAVE ...
WELL THEN ...

IT'S TIME, SHIBA-ZAKI...
I GUESS ...





GUN-
SHOTS
...
MIKA
!!
DAD
!!
IT'S ALL
RIGHT...
I'M JUST
GLAD
THAT
YOU'RE
SAFE...
KANO
...
I'M
SORRY
!
I'M
SORRY
!

BANG
GUN-SHOTS ...
MIGHT BE DANGER-OUS...
BUT I'M KINDA USED TO IT.

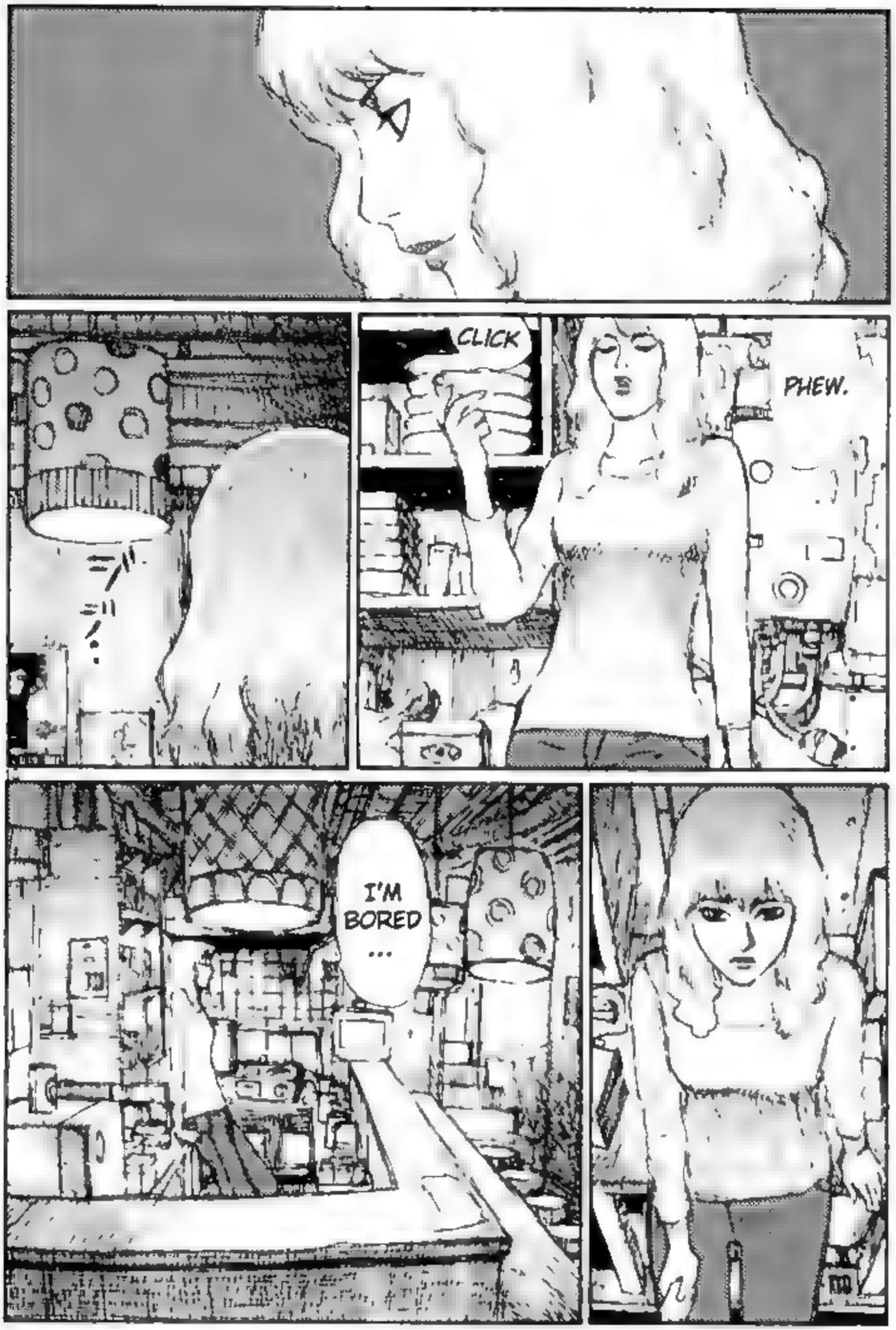
CHAT #26
SETTLING ACCOUNTS

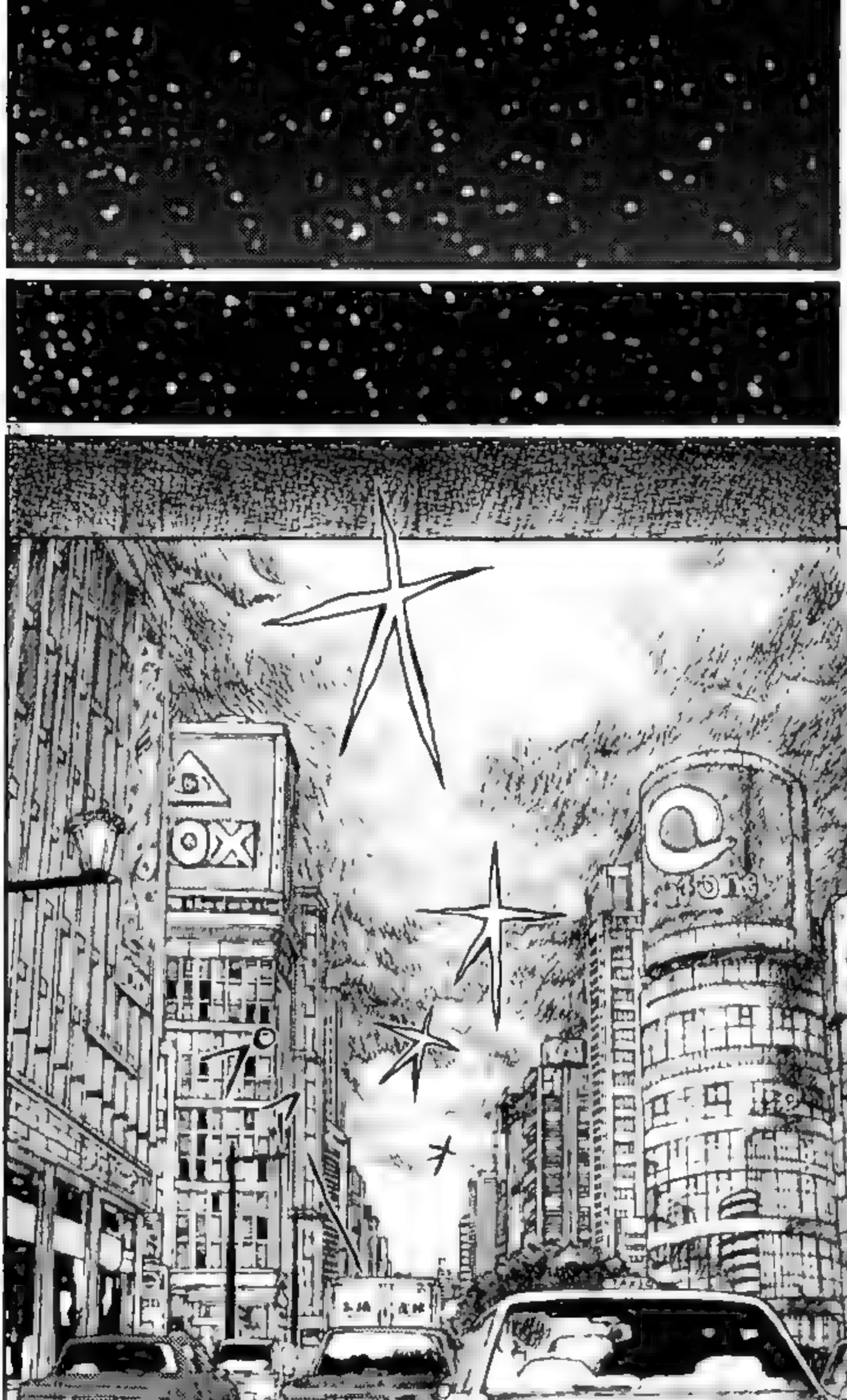
WHAT YOU SAID IS BOTHERING ME.
WE HAVEN'T FINISHED TALKING ...
TELL ME.
WHAT SHOULD I BE LOOKING OUT FOR?

WHAT DID YOU SAY?
I CAN'T HEAR YOU.
HUH ?
KANO.
I...
YOU CAN HEAR IT TOO, CAN'T YOU?
THE PHONE'S RINGING AGAIN.
DEAD.
HE'S ...

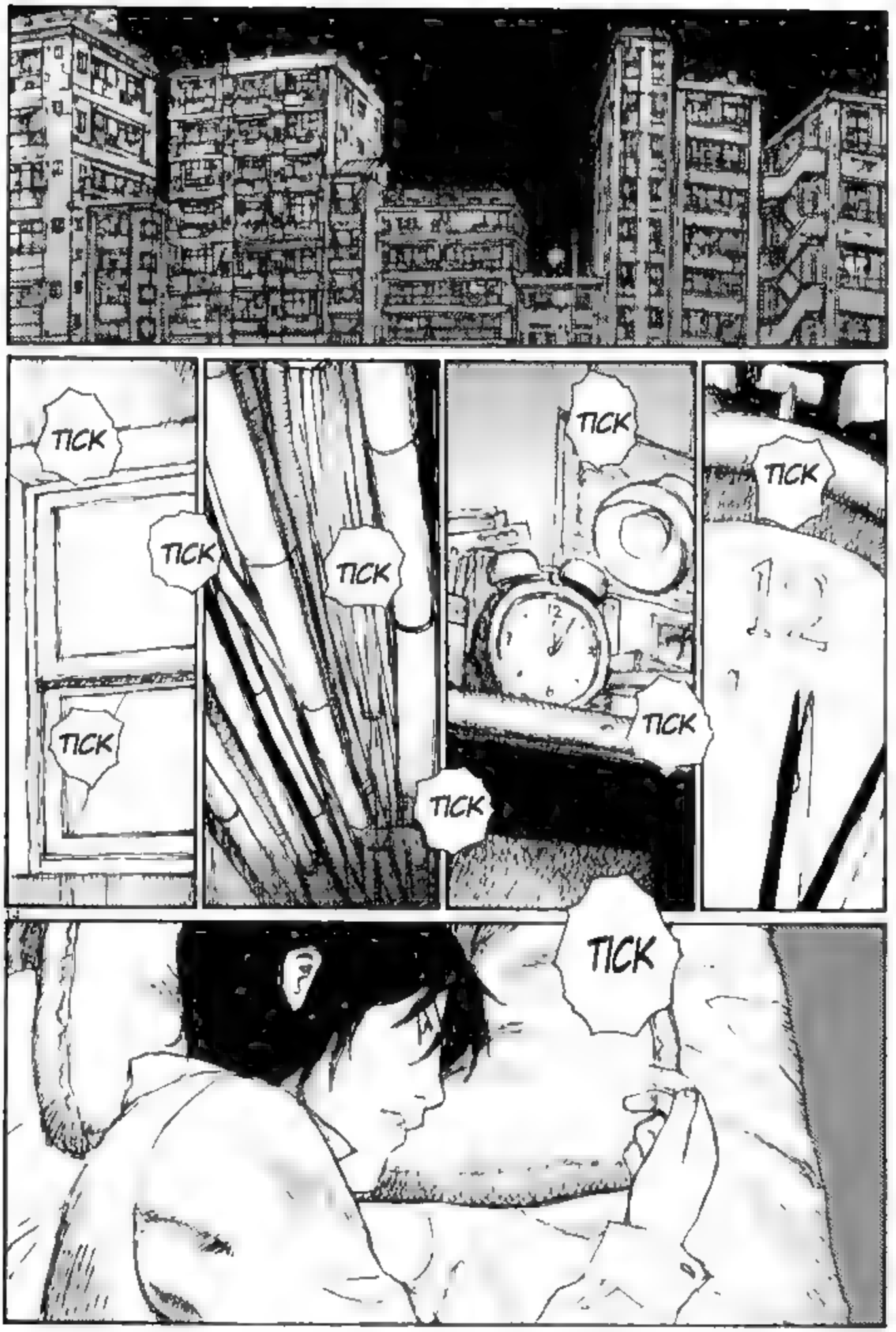
KANO.
YOU SHOT HIM, DIDN'T YOU?
I DID ...?
RIIIING
RIIIING
!
RIIIING
BEEP

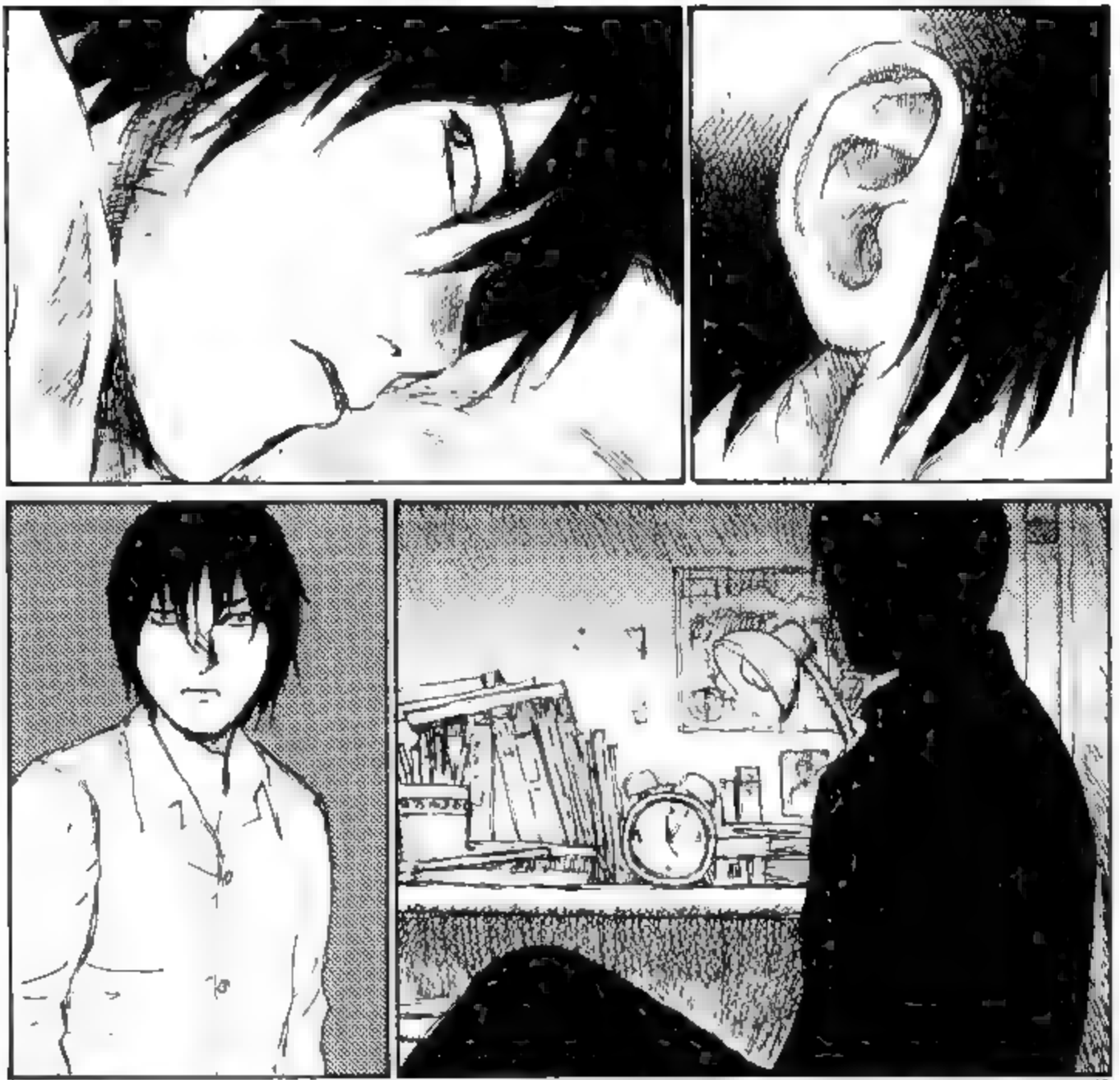
Kotomi
Come and see me--
I'm bored... (ToT)
I'll be waiting!
(* _ *)
Next Mail
Submenu


CLICK
PHEW.
I'M BORED ...

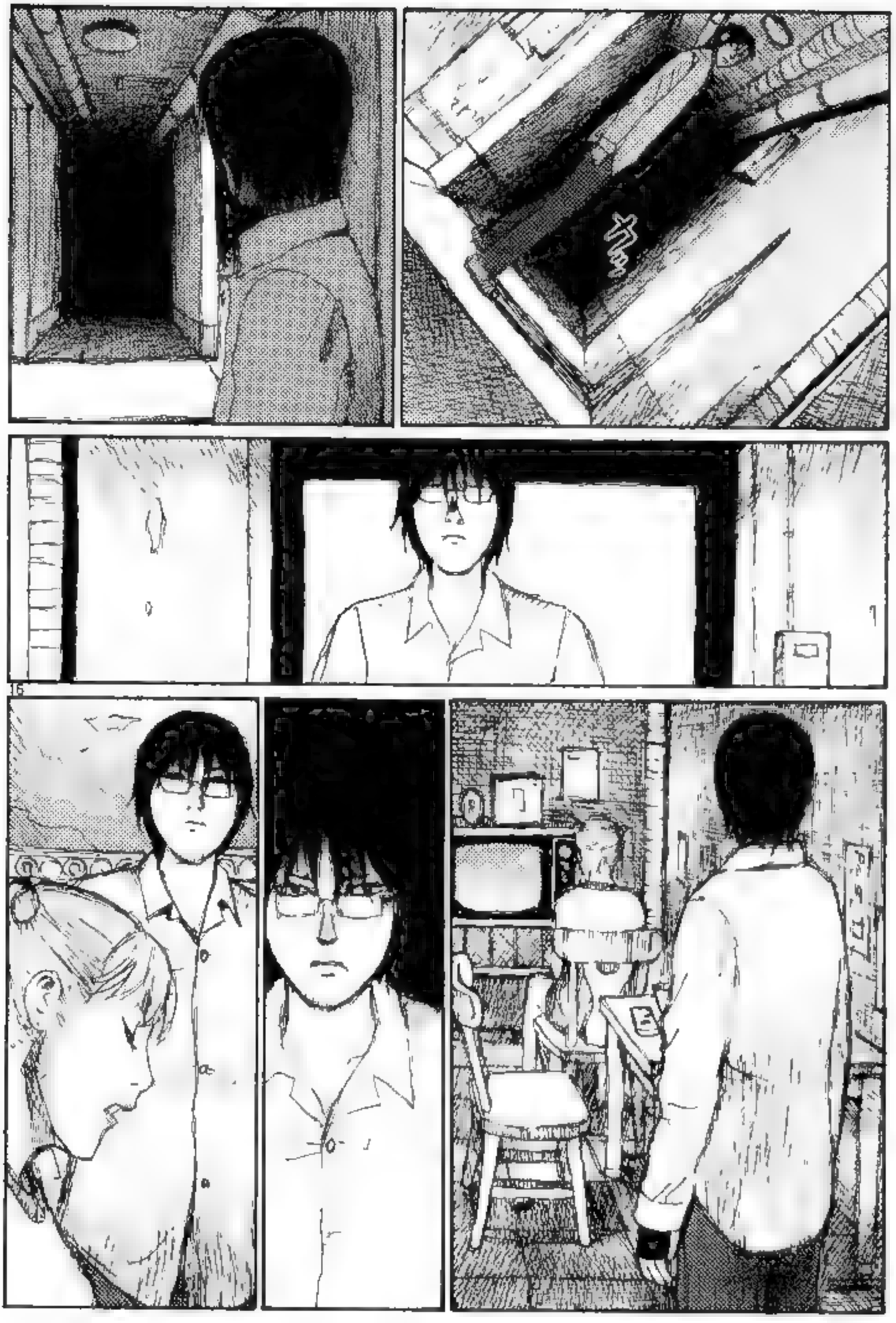


HOW ABOUT GIVING IT A TRY TONIGHT BOSS?
WELL-- YOU'RE AIMING HIGH.
"LOVE TERRORIST" IS ON SALE NOW!
THE NEW SINGLE FROM OH MY MEOW MUSUME!
SCARY !!
REALLY-
AIN'T THE CAT INFLUENZA SCARY? SCARY, HUH?
A SECOND BOMBING RAID ON OUR TERRITORY WILL ONLY STEEL OUR RESOLVE. HOWEVER ...
SUPER GETS! SUPER GETS!
AS OUR COUNTRY IS NOW...
GYAHAHA-HAHA...
ACCORDING TO THE MESSAGE FROM NZN.
KILL THE CATS! KILL THE CATS!
OH, THAT'S MY PHONE


TICK
TICK
TICK
TICK
TICK
TICK
TICK
TICK
TICK



OR HAS TIME STOPPED ...?
ARE THE BATTERIES DEAD...
CLUNK



MMM ?
3-4
KEIKO
W-- WHAT ARE YOU DOING, HIROSHI?
EEK!
3-4
I JUST WANTED TO SEE IF YOU WERE BREATH-ING.
NOTHING.

I'M NOT DEAD!
I'M NOT SO STUPID THAT I'D STOP BREATHING!
3-4
IF TIME STOPS FOR HIM...?
SO SOMEONE DIES...
TICK
TICK
TICK
TICK
TICK
I SEE.
I GUESS SO?
WELL...
3-4

HAVE AN APPLE?
.....
カタ
I CHECKED WITH HIM FIRST. SO I TOOK CARE OF HIM..
I DIDN'T FORCE IT ON HIM.
GRAB
AND I'D LIKE TO KNOW WHY.
BUT HE DIDN'T UNDER-STAND.
ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT WORK?

AND MY FRIEND ...
ISN'T GIVING ME ANY ANSWERS.
SLAM
HEY!
YOU DON'T HAVE ANY FRIENDS HERE!
CLATTER
WELL THEN.
MAYBE YOU CAN TELL ME.

CREAK
HUH?
YOU KNOW, DON'T YOU?
HEY ...
I WANT TO KNOW.
GRAB
HIROSHI !
THUD
GIVE ME THE ANSWER.
C'MON.
AHH.
STOP IT !!

TICK
TICK
TICK
TICK
TICK
TICK
TICK
TICK
HIRO-
SHI
...?
HEY
...
ARE
YOU
ALL
RIGHT
?
...
HIRO-
SHI?
TICK
TICK

WOOOO

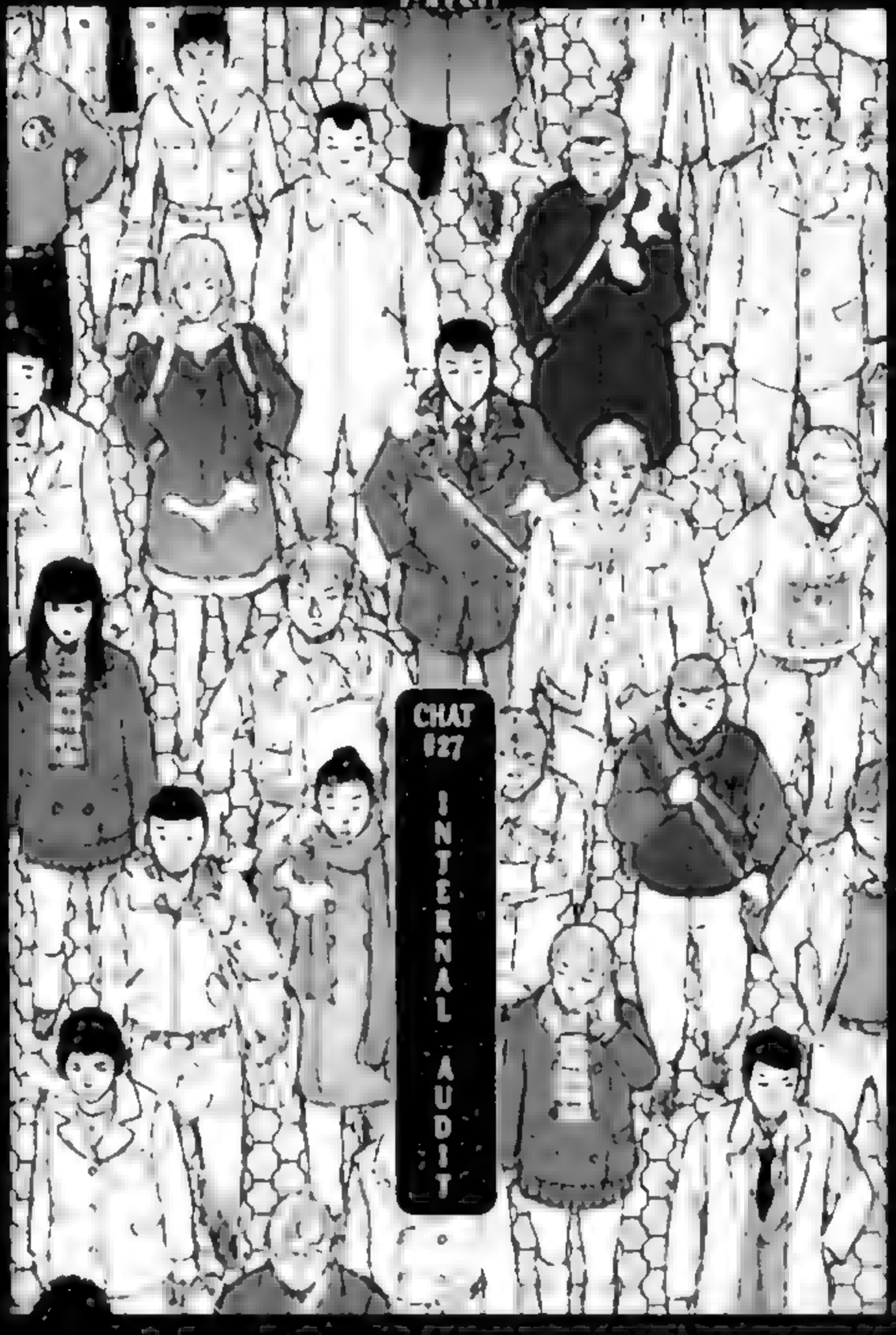
I NEED TO KNOW SOMETHING MORE BEFORE I CAN UNDER-STAND THIS.
TICK
I...
TICK
TICK
TICK
TICK
RIGHT ?
DON'T YOU HAVE SOME-THING TO SAY?
WHY AREN'T YOU SAYING ANY-THING?

JUST TALK A LITTLE.
DON'T YOU HAVE ANYTHING TO QUES-TION ME ABOUT?
THINK ABOUT HOW IT'D BE IF YOU WERE IN MY SHOES.
WON'T YOU HELP ME?
WE COULD BE GREAT FRIENDS TOO.
I BEFRIEND PEOPLE QUICKLY.
BUT I'VE GOT A LITTLE TROUBLE NOW.
I ALWAYS DO IT LIKE THIS.

HEY ...
MY WATCH HAS STOPPED, HASN'T IT?

I CAN'T UNDERSTAND WHAT YOU'RE TRYING TO SAY.
I CAN'T ...
THAT'S IT...
ISN'T IT?
YOU'RE NOT TALKING BECAUSE YOU CAN'T TALK.
AND YOU'RE NOT THINKING OF ANYTHING, NOT DOING ANYTHING.

YOU CAN'T BE MY FRIEND.
THAT'S WHY ...
TIME HAS STOPPED ...
BECAUSE YOU'RE A DEAD MAN.


CHAT
127
INTERNAL AUDIT

IT'S TIME TO START, I THINK...
UHH, YAMADA ?

ARE ALIVE--
ALL-OF US--
ALL-OF US--
TO BE ALIVE--
AND WE'RE HAPPY --
DISPERSE FROM THIS AREA IMMEDI-ATELY.
YOU ARE ILLEGALLY OCCUPY-ING THIS PUBLIC SPACE.
IN ENFORCING THE NEW LAW THE AUTHORITIES HAVE DISREGARDED WHAT WILL HAPPEN TO THESE POOR PETS...
YOUR CATS WILL BE DEALT WITH BY THE HEALTH AND SANITATION DEPART-MENT.

CHARGE !!
GROUP A, FROM THE RIGHT!
GROUP B, FROM THE LEFT!
DIS-PERSE THEM!
WHAT ABOUT THE CRICK-ETS!?
EEK!
WHAT ABOUT THE FROGS !?
WHAT ABOUT THE POND SKATERS !?
THUD !!
AAAAH
OUCH !!
AND WE'RE FRIENDS --
ALL OF US- ALL OF US- ARE ALIVE--
I HAD TO GIVE UP MY POOR LITTLE MI TOO, YOU BASTARD !
STOP IT!!
CAT SEX

DID YOU READ THE LETTER I SENT?
WELL, SIR.
I READ IT.
YEAH.

AND YOU REPRESENT THE COURT OF INQUIRY FOR THE ENFORCERS' ASSOCIATION.
THAT'S RIGHT.
CLACK CLACK
CLACK CLACK
CLACK CLACK
CLACK CLACK
MIZOGUCHI DELIBERATELY VIOLATED THE ENFORCE-MENT ACT...
WELL ...
WHAT ?
WELL SIR, IF YOU READ IT, YOU SHOULD KNOW WHY I'M HERE...
DO I LOOK LIKE I CARE ?!
AND IN THIS CASE, THE POLICY THAT MY OFFICE HAS TAKEN...

THE PROBLEM HERE IS IGNORANT BRATS LIKE YOU TRYING TO ROCK THE BOAT.
LISTEN UP AND LISTEN WELL, KIDDO.
DO YOU THINK I'M SOME BLOODY TALK SHOW HOST, HERE TO LISTEN TO YOUR COMPLAINTS?!
YOUR OFFICE ALREADY SENT ME A LONG EXPLANATION ABOUT IT.
DON'T GIVE ME ANY FURTHER REASON TO MARK YOU!
KEEP THAT IN MIND!

EARLIER TODAY ...
I GOT A CALL.
FROM YOSHIMURA OF THE COURT OF INQUIRY FOR THE ENFORCERS' ASSOCIATION.
HE WAS FURIOUS
YAMADA.
IF YOU ACT ON YOUR OWN...
THE COURT WON'T LISTEN TO YOU.
THAT'S THE WAY IT IS.
WHY AM I IN THE WRONG ?
IT'S NOTHING TO DO WITH THE REAL PROBLEM.

YOU DON'T UNDER-STAND.
YAMADA.
EVEN IF THE COURT RESPONDED TO YOUR DIRECT APPEAL...
THE ENFORCE-MENT ACT WASN'T WRITTEN FOR YOU.
YOU'D BE CONDEMNED ALONG WITH MIZOGUCHI.
IS THAT YOU'RE BEING SELFISH.
THE REAL PROBLEM ...
WE'LL ALL BE IN TROUBLE IF HE TAKES THIS BADLY.
YOU HAVE TO GO THROUGH THE PROPER CHANNELS. THAT'S ONE OF OUR RULES.

OH YES.
.....
YOU'VE GOT A NARROW VISION OF THE WORLD AROUND YOU.
.....
WE CAN STILL USE HIM, BUT HE'S GETTING TROUBLE-SOME.
WOULD YOU BE WILLING TO WORK WITHOUT MIZOGU-CHI?
I'M NOT GOING TO RUN AWAY FROM THIS.
IT DOESN'T MATTER.

WHAT ?
CAN I ASK YOU SOME-THING?
BOSS.
WELL, DON'T GET ME WRONG. THIS IS AN ORDER.
WOULD YOU HAVE GONE TO THE COURT OF INQUIRY ABOUT IT?
IF I HAD COMPLAINED TO YOU..
I GUESS NOT, HUH?

NEXT!
OKAY.
INTER-VIEW ROOM FOR ENFOR CERS
AND I REALLY ADMIRE JOHNNY SANDERS!
MY FAVORITE PHRASE IS MYSTE-- RIOUS GAMES!
I SPECIALIZE IN GLOBAL DOMINATION. AND MY FAVORITE POSITION IS--
ALL RIGHT, ALL RIGHT. WOULD YOU CALL THE NEXT PERSON FOR US?
JOHNNY ... WHO?
AHH... REALLY.

WE'RE DONE FOR THE AFTERNOON. SOMEONE ELSE IS TAKING OVER AFTER THIS...
HOW MANY MORE ARE THERE ...?
EH!
THE BOSS SUGGESTED IT, ACTUALLY.
AND YOU'LL BE TRAINING ROOKIES, TOO.
WHY AM I STUCK HERE? I'M SUPPOSED TO BE ON THE FRONT LINES.
HIGUCHI.. YOU OF ALL PEOPLE TELLING ME THAT...
IT'LL BE A GOOD CHANCE TO LEARN HOW TO GET ALONG WITH PEOPLE AGAIN.
COOL IT...
WHY ME?!

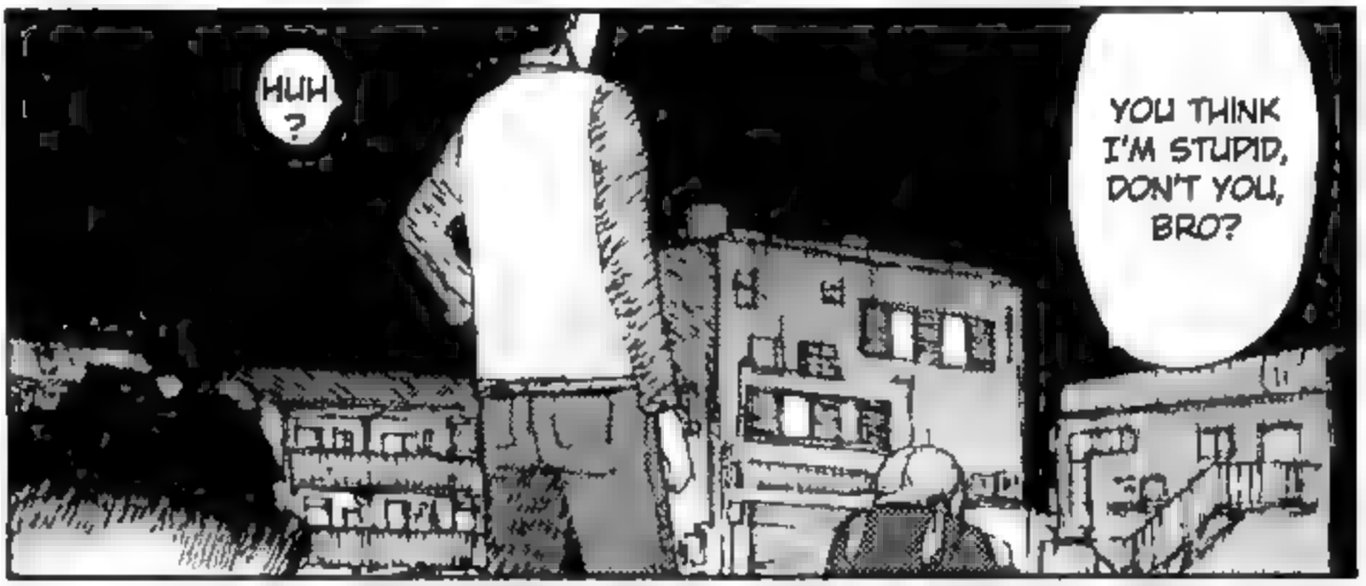
WOULD YOU LET EITHER OF THEM TEACH THE ROOKIES? IT'D BE LIKE WHEN YOU FIRST CAME HERE.
ASIDE FROM YOU, WE ONLY HAVE MIZOGUCHI AND KANO LEFT...
THAT WOULDN'T BE GOOD...
AHH ... WELL ...
SLAM
WAIT --
WE'LL BE ACCEPTING 2 NEW GUYS NEXT WEEK.
WELL, ALL THE BEST.
SHIT.
.....

BEEP
!

GET A HOLD OF YOUR SELF, DEAR.
NOOOOO!!
OH, HELLO.
YOSHIE !
AND OPEN THE DOOR.
WE'RE HERE TO TAKE YOUR CAT...
I HATE YOU, DAD!! I HATE YOU, MUM!!
WE'RE FROM THE HEALTH AND SANITATION DEPART-MENT.
NOOO OOO !!
WHAT'S GOING ON HERE?

KNOCK KNOCK
WAAA HH--
MEOW
YOSHIE SHUT HERSELF INSIDE WITH THE CAT.
LEND US A HAND.
OPEN UP, YOSHIE
OH ICHIRO. YOU'RE BACK.
WE KNOW HOW YOU FEEL, BUT THERE ISN'T A CHOICE...
OPEN THE DOOR, DEAR. PEOPLE HAVE DIED OF CAT INFLUENZA.
YOSHIE
WHY DO YOU HAVE TO KILL HIM? ISN'T TAMA PART OF OUR FAMILY?! ISN'T HIS LIFE IMPORTANT?
YOU WOULDN'T BE DOING THIS IF YOU KNEW HOW I FEEL!

I JUST WANT TO PROTECT MY POOR TAMA!
I DON'T CARE ABOUT THE LAW OR THE INFLU-ENZA!
I FEEL FOR TAMA, BUT WE REALLY HAD NO CHOICE.
HOW LONG ARE YOU PLANNING TO CRY HERE, YOSHIE?
.....


HUH ?
YOU THINK I'M STUPID, DON'T YOU, BRO?

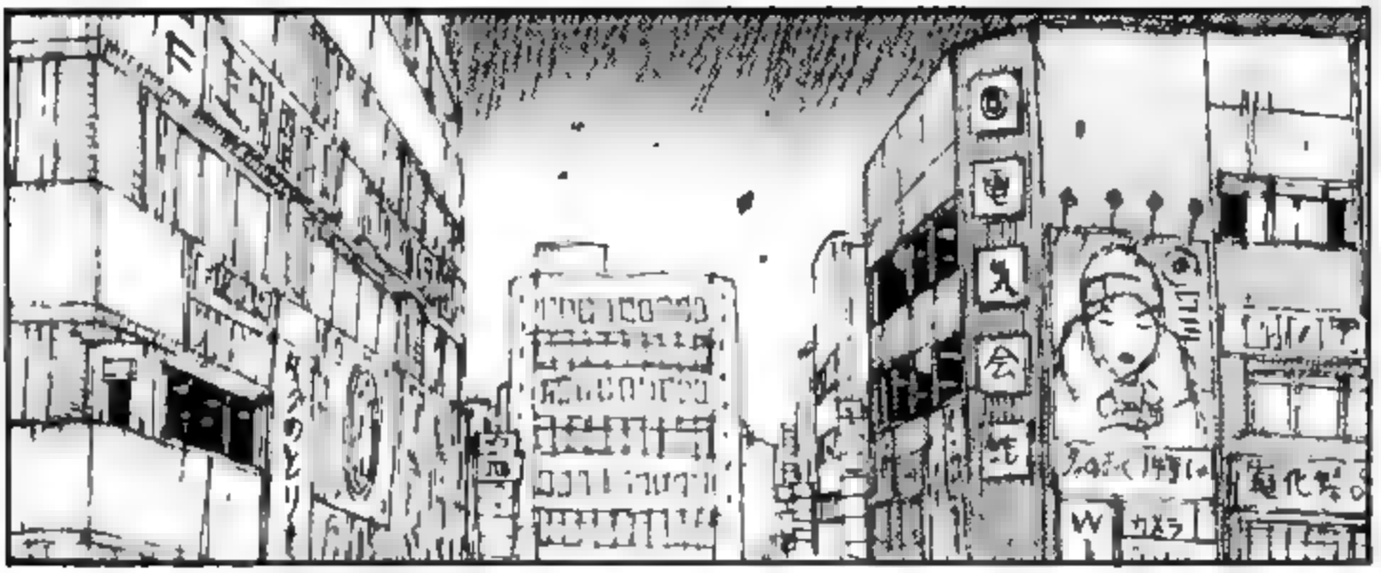
I COULDN'T DO ANY-THING TO SAVE TAMA...
I KNOW THAT MUCH.

EVEN THOUGH I KNEW IT WAS FUTILE...
THAT'S THE WORST OF IT...
IT'S ALL I COULD GIVE TAMA...

AND... AND... I COULDN'T DO ANY-THING...
AND... AND...
SOB
SOB

BUT --
BUT --
66
I CAN'T HELP FEELING SORRY FOR TAMA..

AHH... WELL.
SOB
I...
SOB
ONLY THAT...
I THINK ALL OF US FELT THE SAME...
NO ONE THINKS YOU WERE STUPID, YOSHIE.
NONE OF US COULD DO ANY-THING.
IT'S DIFFI-CULT...
IT'S JUST THAT ...



EVERY TIME--

YOUR HEART-- YUKIKO--
I'LL REACH YOU--
I FALL-- IN LOVE--
VICTIMS OF THE ENFORCE-MENT
I THINK OF YOU--

THE GOVERNMENT HASN'T COMPENSATED THEM IN ANY WAY.
WE'RE RAISING FUNDS FOR THOSE WHO HAVE BEEN INADVERTENTLY HARMED BY THE ENFORCEMENT ACT
AID FOR VICTIMS OF THE ENFORCEMENT ACT
!!
WOULD YOU CARE TO DONATE, SIR?
.....
UMM.. IS SOMETHING WRONG?
HE'S SELLING CDS OF HIS MUSIC TO RAISE FUNDS.
GIMME TIME!!
I AM HERE!
HIS GIRLFRIEND WAS KILLED BY AN ENFORCER ...
AHH ...
WHO'S HE?
RUSTLE
THANK YOU VERY MUCH.
AHH.. NO.
AID FOR VICTIMS OF THE ENFORCEMENT ACT
SOB SOB SOB
CLAP
CLAP
CLAP

ONE MOMENT, SIR!
AHH!
WE GIVE THIS TO EVERYONE WHO DONATES.
WELL, YOU SEE...
WHAT?
HERE YOU GO.
IT'S A WHITE FEATHER PIN.
AID FOR VICTIMS OF THE ENFORCEMENT ACT

IT'S TIME TO START, I THINK...
UHH, YAMADA ?
HUH?
GET READY.
THAT'S RIGHT.
OH YES...
IT'S TIME FOR THE ENFORCE-MENT...
DON'T SAY 'HUH? '...

TCHAK TCHAK

ガキ

AND ...
THE 2 OF US ARE NEW TO THIS...

KANEKO ?
WHAT'S WRONG ?

WILL IT BE ALL RIGHT?
UMM ...

IT'S OUR FIRST TIME!
I-- I'M NOT AS CARE-FREE AS YOU, IIJIMA!
WHY ARE YOU SO NERVOUS ?

DO WE STAND A CHANCE ...?
WE'RE UP AGAINST 2 SKILLED BODY-GUARDS ...

HEH HEH
... I GUESS NOT
OUR OFFICE WON'T PUT YOUR LIFE ON THE LINE DURING YOUR FIRST ASSIGNMENT
DON'T WORRY
THERE THEY ARE
LOOK.
WHAT ??
THE BODY-GUARDS SHOULD BE COMING NOW

SHOULDN'T WE HIDE BEHIND THE CAR!?
THEY'LL KILL US!
WAAHH !!
RELAX.
WE'RE NOT GOING TO START SHOOT-ING...
?
DURING MY FIRST TIME, I FELT THE SAME WAY TOO...

THEY'RE GETTING CLOSER !!
WHAT SHOULD WE DO!?
HIM..
SHOULD WE SHOOT FIRST!?
WE'D BETTER SHOOT BEFORE THEY'LL KILL US--!
HEY! SHOULDN'T WE FIRE?!

CHAT #28 TRAINING ROOKIES

HIM ...
CAN I SHOOT !?
WHAT SHOULD WE DO!? THEY'RE WALKING THIS WAY!

.....
HAHA! 'B'S? I GOT A 'B+'!
THEY ONLY GOT 'B'S ON THE SHOOTING TEST.
LET THEM GET CLOSER.
JUST WAIT FOR MY SIGNAL.
HUH ?
... I SEE.

AT THE SAME TIME.
THEN SHOOT THEM BOTH...
YEAH!
AHH ...
SHOOTING ONLY AT THE LAST MINUTE...
WE'LL KEEP THE INITIA-TIVE...
IIJIMA, THE ONE BEHIND.
KANEKO. TAKE THE ONE IN FRONT.
AND DON'T GO FOR THE HEAD! YOU'LL MISS.
BUT FIRE ONLY TWICE!
THUD

JUST A LITTLE MORE.
HMM?
THEY'RE SHIMMER-ING...
LIKE A MIRAGE ...
SHIT!
ARE THEY DOING ...?
WHAT THE HELL ...

NOW,

ME TOO! HEH HEH HEH HEH.
I GOT HIM!

!
WHAT--
WHAT HAPPENED?
!
UGH ...
AHH ...
BUT KANEKO... YOU FIRED 3 TIMES. DON'T FORGET YOU HAVE A LIMITED NUMBER OF BULLETS.
GOOD WORK ...
OKAY
JUST WAIT HERE.

RUSTLE
IS THIS SOME KIND OF JOKE?
JESUS ...
YOU MADE A FINE TARGET.
STROLLING AROUND WITHOUT A CARE IN THE WORLD...
HOW CAN YOU CALL YOURSELF A PROFES-SIONAL?
YOU'RE THE JOKE, NOT DOING YOUR JOB.

I HAVE AN ARRANGE-MENT WITH YOUR OFFICE...
W-- WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT?
NOTHING CAN HELP YOU.
YOU'RE THE PITIFUL ONE.
TCHAK
I GUESS YOU'RE THE ONE WHO WON'T LAST LONG...
YOU WON'T WAKE UP UNTIL IT'S TOO LATE FOR REGRETS.

THIS IS IT.
WELL THEN
YOU'RE THE GUY THAT TIME WHO...
... UHH ...
WAIT!
W--
ONCE THE BODY-GUARDS HAVE MADE THEIR INTENTION TO SURRENDER CLEAR, THEY'RE NOT TO BE TREATED AS ENEMIES!
I SURREN-DER! ACCORDING TO THE ENFORCE-MENT ACT ...
BODY-GUARDS WHO SURRENDER HAVE TO FOLLOW THE ENFORCER'S INSTRUC-TIONS!

ARTICLE 38, WASN'T IT?
HEH HEH ... HEH.
WHAT WERE YOU SAYING
I'M SORRY.
WAI--

12

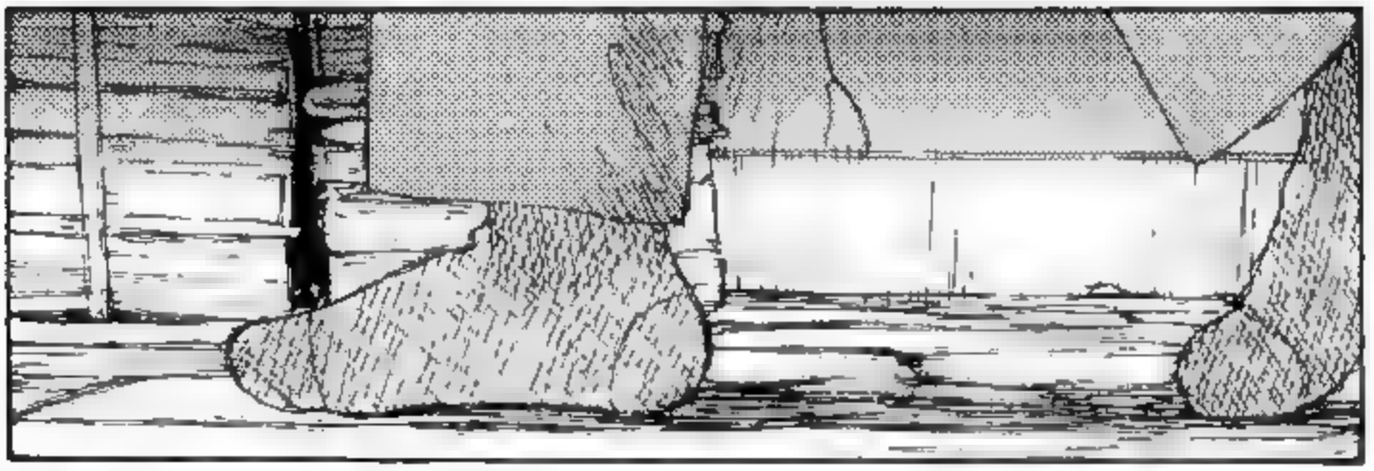
I MISSED.
RELAX.
HOW GOOD OF YOU.
H--
YOU'RE SCUM.
TAKE THEIR WEAPONS AND CALL THE PROCESSING TEAM.
THE BODYGUARDS HAVE SURRENDERED!

I'M GOING IN. YOU TWO GUARD THE FRONT AND BACK.
YOU MEMO-RIZED THE MAP, RIGHT?
JUST GET A FEEL FOR THE WORK.
IT'S YOUR FIRST TIME.
WELL, SEE YOU IN A BIT.
BUT I'D LOVE TO GO IN TOO--
WE'LL BE FINE!

I'D LIKE TO BECOME LIKE HIM ONE DAY.
HE SEEMS LIKE THE SERIOUS TYPE.
WELL, HE'S DONE THIS MANY TIMES BEFORE.
HE'S PRETTY CALM.

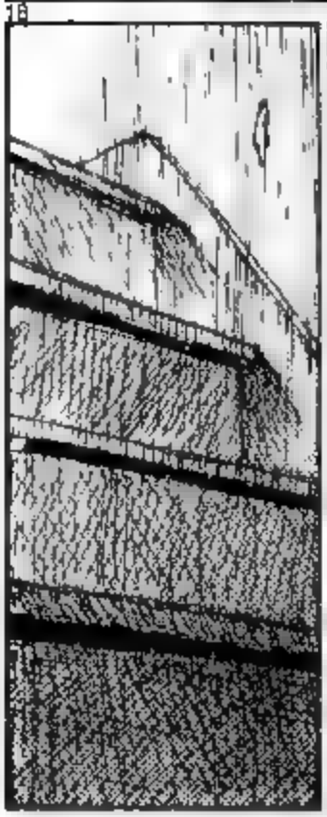
WOOOO
WHO ARE YOU?
IS THIS THE YOSHIMURA RESIDENCE ?
UMM... A LADY SHOULD HAVE COME LAST WEEK WITH A NOTICE...
AHH? YEAH.. SHE WAS KINDA PRETTY...
HIGUCHI ?
YES, YES... THAT'S HER..
WAS IT?
I'M FROM THE PROXY ENFORC EMENT OFFICE ...
MIKO'S HOME
HE HASN'T STEPPED OUT OF THERE SINCE LAST YEAR.
WELL, AKI-HIRO'S IN HIS ROOM ON THE 2ND FLOOR.

I'LL FIND HIM MYSELF ...
I'LL ...
AHH, IT'S ALL RIGHT, MA'AM.
AKIHIRO!! SOME-ONE'S HERE LOOKING FOR YOU!
!
.....



SURE, HE'S BEEN DIVORCED AND ALL THAT...
BUT I REALLY LIKE HIM...

BUT YEAH, HE JUST FEELS RIGHT, Y'KNOW?



HUH? RUN AWAY FROM IT? WHY?

YEAH, YEAH, YEAH. THE ENFORCERS ARE COMING FOR HIM...
HMM? MY BROTHER? WELL, HE'S GONNA DIE...

PISTOL
CLICK
CLACK
CLACK
CLACK

ARE YOU LISTENING TO ME?
THE ENFORCEMENT HAS STARTED.
YOSHIMURA
I DON'T CARE.
SHUT UP.
YOU HAVEN'T EVEN TAKEN IT OUT OF THE PACKET.
WHY DID YOU LEAVE THE GUN OUTSIDE?
.....

JUST LEAVE ME ALONE, YOU MORON.
WHAT IS IT?
AND DO YOU HAVE TO PLAY THAT NOW?
WHY AREN'T YOU WEARING ANY-THING?
PAY ME MONEY IF YOU WANT ME TO STOP. IDIOT.
STOP BUGGING ME.
DO YOU WANT TO DIE LIKE THIS!?
DOESN'T IT MATTER TO YOU?!

IT DOESN'T MATTER.
WHY SHOULD I CARE?
HEH.

YOU'RE ALSO DOING YOUR BEST
I GUESS
AREN'T YOU GOING TO DO YOUR JOB?
WELL ?
CLACK CLACK
THAT'S WHAT YOU'RE HERE FOR, RIGHT?

GEEZE...
MIIKO'S HOME
GET ON WITH IT.
HOW MUCH LONGER DO I HAVE TO WAIT...?
IT'S COLD ...
HUH?
BANG BANG
EEK!

WAAAAAHH
THE BABY WOKE UP AND STARTED CRYING.
OH, IT'S NOTHING. JUST GUN-SHOTS.
WAAAAAHH
I'LL GIVE YOU SOME MILK...
YES, YES...
IS IT OVER ?
... YAMADA
DON'T CRY... I CAN'T TALK ON THE PHONE AT THE SAME TIME...

AHH, NO ...
IS SOME-THING WRONG ?
.....
THE PROCESS-ING TEAM WILL TAKE OVER FROM HERE...
... YES.
.....
I THOUGHT THERE WOULD BE MORE TO IT...
IT'S JUST THAT ...
IT'S JUST THAT...
VEN-GEANCE...

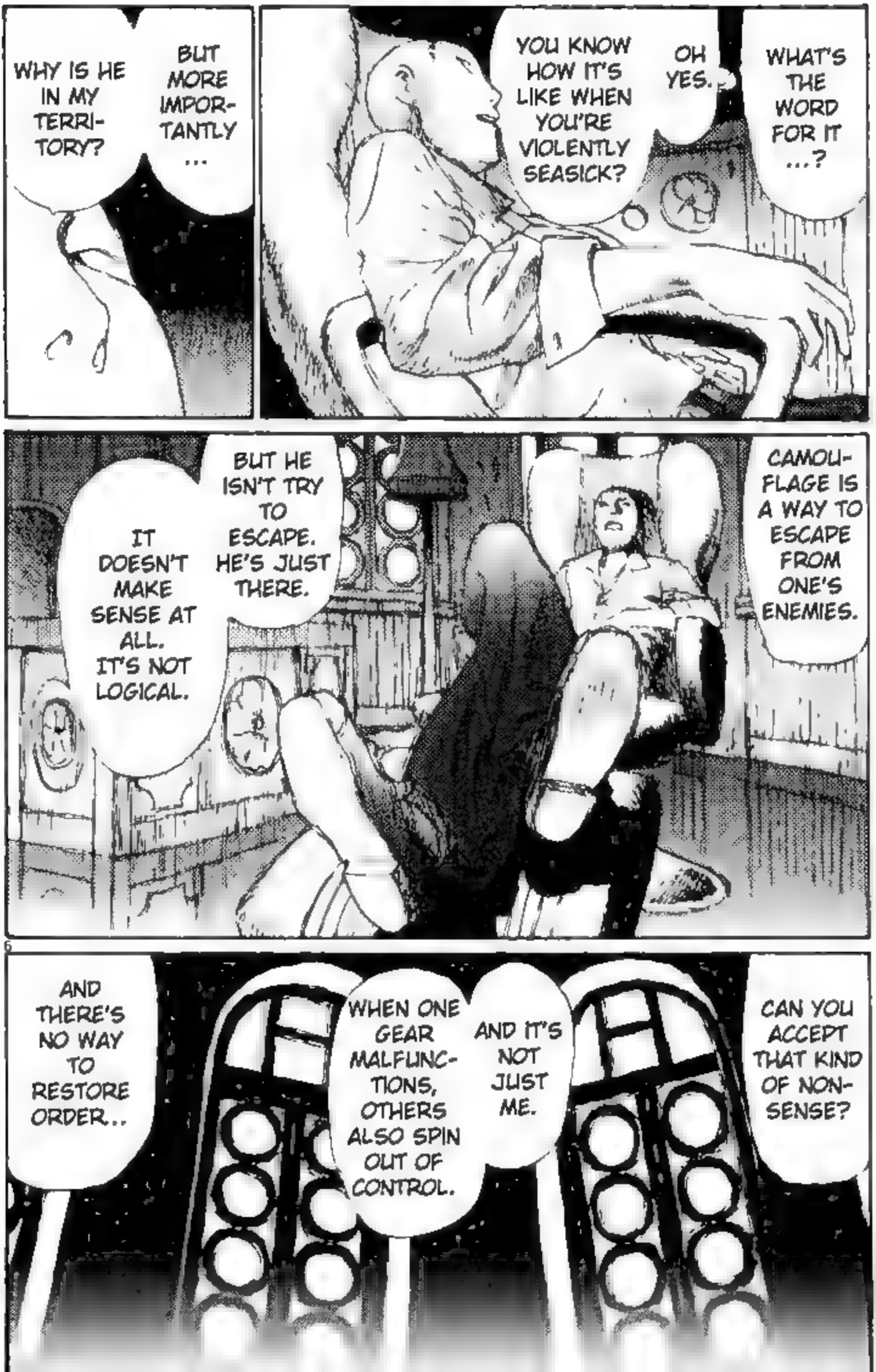
I HEARD YOU HAD A BAD COLD AND WERE HOSPITALIZED...
SO HOW ARE YOU FEELING, MR. ACCOUNTANT?
PESTERING ME.

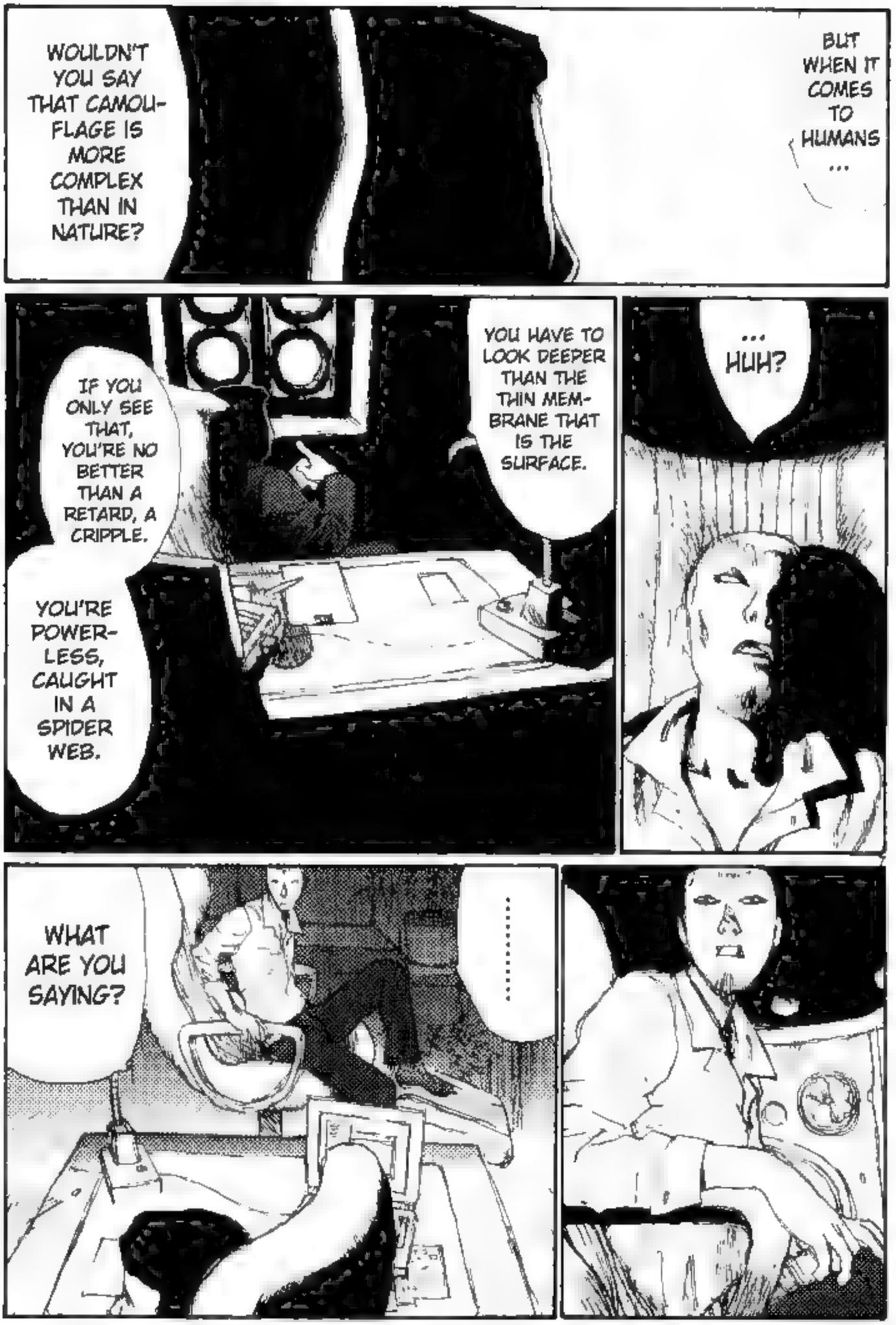
WOOOO
REALLY ?
I DON'T NEED COUNSEL-ING.
LOOK. I'M ONLY HERE BECAUSE THE BOSS ORDERED ME TO.
HMM --?
SO LET ME GUESS.
AND ENFORCERS ALL FACE SIMILAR PROBLEMS.
I WORK WITH THE KASUMI OFFICE PRETTY OFTEN.

キィ
WELL, GO AHEAD THEN. TELL ME WHAT'S BOTHERING ME.
LET'S SEE ...
I'D PROBABLY SAY YOU'RE THE TYPE THAT NEEDS TO STAND OUT.
YOU FEAR OTHER PEOPLE INVADING YOUR TERRITORY.
NORMALLY, YOU WOULDN'T DO ANY-THING.
YOU'D JUST SIT THERE AND WAIT FOR PREY.
BUT YOU'VE BEEN PUSHED BACK AND CORNERED, DRIVEN INTO THIS.

HA HA HA...
I HAVE MY WAYS.
HOW DO YOU KNOW ALL THIS?
.....
GEEZE ...
THAT OLD MAN.
RECORDS OF YOUR PERFOR-MANCE ON THE JOB.
YOUR OFFICE SENT ME SOME DATA ON YOU.
A CAMOU-FLAGE THAT TRICKS YOUR MIND INSTEAD OF YOUR EYES.
IT'S A LITTLE MORE COMPLEX THAN THAT WITH PEOPLE.
YOU MEAN LIKE THE WAY THAT BUGS MIMIC THE SHAPE AND COLOR OF PLANTS?
DO YOU KNOW WHAT 'CAMOU-FLAGE' IS?
BUT TELL ME...

EVERY CREATURE THAT'S PREYED UPON DOES IT, IF ONLY JUST A LITTLE.
WELL, YOU COULD CALL EVERYTHING THEY DO TO HIDE THEMSELVES 'CAMOUFLAGE'.
CAN YOU BELIEVE SOMETHING LIKE THAT EXISTS?
?
HE'S DIFFERENT.
BUT ...
AND IT GETS WORSE THE HARDER YOU SEARCH FOR HIM.
HE MAKES YOU FEEL UNEASY.
IT'S NOT SIMPLY THAT YOU CAN'T SENSE HIM THERE.


WHY IS HE IN MY TERRI-TORY?
BUT MORE IMPOR-TANTLY ...
YOU KNOW HOW IT'S LIKE WHEN YOU'RE VIOLENTLY SEASICK?
OH YES.
WHAT'S THE WORD FOR IT ...?
IT DOESN'T MAKE SENSE AT ALL. IT'S NOT LOGICAL.
BUT HE ISN'T TRY TO ESCAPE. HE'S JUST THERE.
CAMOU-FLAGE IS A WAY TO ESCAPE FROM ONE'S ENEMIES.
AND THERE'S NO WAY TO RESTORE ORDER..
WHEN ONE GEAR MALFUNC-TIONS, OTHERS ALSO SPIN OUT OF CONTROL.
AND IT'S NOT JUST ME.
CAN YOU ACCEPT THAT KIND OF NON-SENSE?


WOULDN'T YOU SAY THAT CAMOUFLAGE IS MORE COMPLEX THAN IN NATURE?
BUT WHEN IT COMES TO HUMANS ...
IF YOU ONLY SEE THAT, YOU'RE NO BETTER THAN A RETARD, A CRIPPLE.
YOU HAVE TO LOOK DEEPER THAN THE THIN MEMBRANE THAT IS THE SURFACE.
YOU'RE POWERLESS, CAUGHT IN A SPIDER WEB.
... HUH?
WHAT ARE YOU SAYING?
.....

PRIDE ALONE DOESN'T QUALIFY YOU TO BE A HUNTER.
WELL, THIS IS PERFECT.
SHOW ME WHAT YOU'RE MADE OF.
YOU'VE BEEN HOPING FOR THIS, HAVEN'T YOU?
IT'S YOUR CHANCE.
DO YOU HAVE SOME KIND OF DEATH WISH?
ARE YOU SAYING YOU WANT ME TO HUNT YOU?
OH YES. YOU CAN THINK OF THIS AS PART OF YOUR TREAT-MENT.
IT'LL BE MORE USEFUL THAN COUNSELING, I'M SURE.

!!!
HAHAHAHAHA
KANO
...!!

MR MIZO-GUCHI ?
ARE YOU ALL RIGHT ?
AHH!
WHAT KIND OF DREAM WAS THAT!?
SHIT.
WE WERE IN THE MIDDLE OF A COUN-SELING SESSION..
BUT YOU LOOKED RATHER TIRED, SO I LET YOU SLEEP...
BE SURE TO FOLLOW THE DOSAGE CARE-FULLY...
WELL, I'LL PRE-SCRIBE SOME-THING.

2 OF THE RED PILLS BEFORE MEALS. 3 OF THE WHITE ONES AFTER MEALS. MAKE SURE YOU TAKE THE YELLOW ONES WHILE YOU'RE EATING. AND THE SMALL ONES EVERY 2 HOURS.
THE CAPSULES BEFORE YOU SLEEP. AND THE SUPPOSI-TORIES BEFORE YOU VISIT THE TOILET. AS FOR THOSE INSIDE THIS PLASTIC BAG...
OKAY!
THESE ARE YOU DRUGS --!
WOOOO
I DON'T KNOW ...
.....
WHAT ARE THEY FOR?
THAT'S A LOT OF DRUGS.

THUD
CLACK CLACK
CLACK CLACK
CLACK CLACK
12
.....
WHAM WHAM
WHAM
FLICKER FLICKER

HUH?
MY SCREEN FLICK-ERS EVERY TIME YOU HIT IT.
HIGUCHI.
WOULD YOU STOP HITTING THE XEROX MACHINE?
IT'LL CLEAR UP IF I HIT THE MACHINE ENOUGH.
WHIRR
OH, THE PAPER'S JUST STUCK.
WHAM WHAM
HEY!
REALLY?
YOU'D BETTER HURRY, THEN.
THERE'S NO TIME...
I NEED TO GET THIS REPORT WRITTEN BEFORE THIS AFTER-NOON'S ENFORCE-MENT.

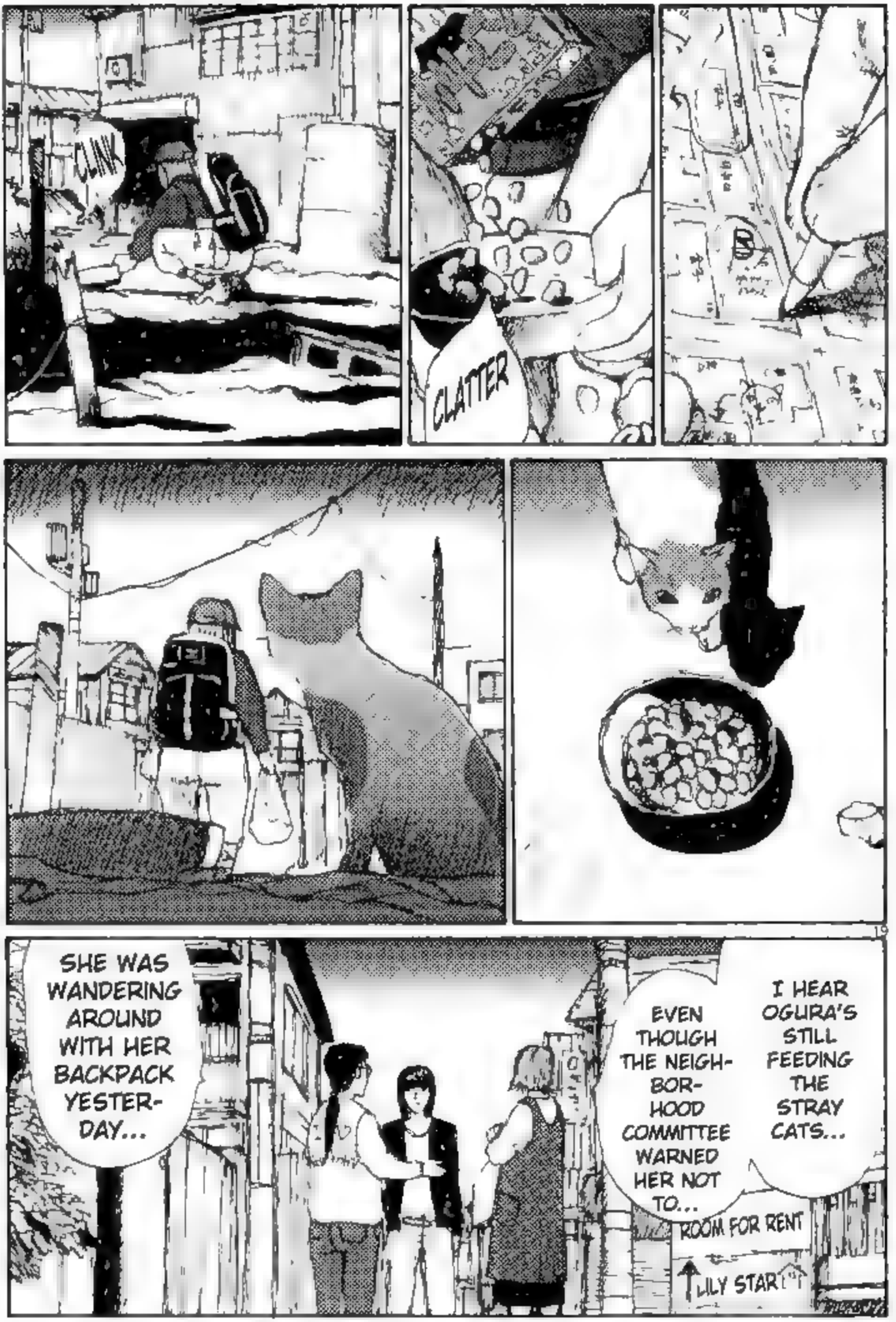
WHAT ?
I GLANCED AT THE PROFILE ALREADY
DO YOU KNOW WHO YOUR TARGET IS TODAY?
OH YES.
SHE'D BEEN DOING IT OVER SEVERAL YEARS, NONCHALANTLY AND METHODICALLY.
IT'S QUITE FASCINATING.
THIS WOMAN WAS INVOLVED IN SOME INSURANCE-RELATED MURDERS A FEW YEARS AGO. SHE PUT WOLFSBANE IN THEIR RAMEN.
14
STOP THAT!
... HEY!
SHE WAS JUST ANOTHER FOOL WHO GOT CAUGHT IN THE END...
SO WHAT IF SHE WAS CAREFUL ABOUT IT?

WHAM
WHAM
TWITCH
GEEZE.
TWITCH
FLICKER
WHAM
I'D BETTER GET ON WITH THIS. I WON'T HAVE TIME LATER...
AH! IT'S WORKING! IT'S WORKING!
HE --!
CLATTER

COUGH
COUGH
COUGH
HMM ?
IT'S NOT A PROBLEM !
SHUT UP!
YOU'LL BE DOING THE ENFORCE-MENT ALONE TODAY. WILL YOU BE ALL RIGHT?
ARE YOU STILL SICK?
COUGH
FZZSH

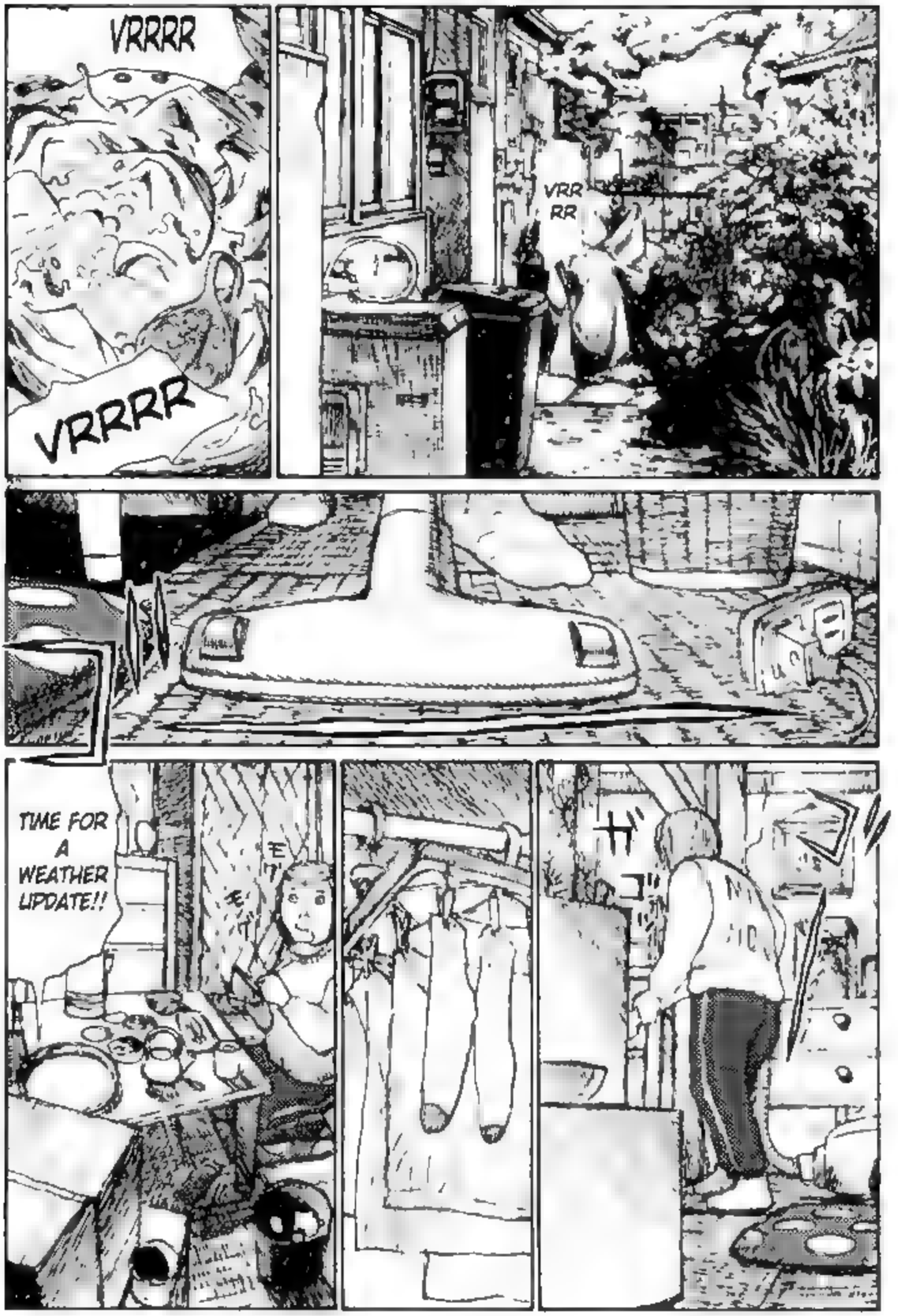
GULP
IT'S NOT A PROBLEM... NOT A PROBLEM !
SHIT !

CAT
OFU DEPARTMENT
STORE
KAKUTA HOUSE


CLINK
CLATTER
SHE WAS WANDERING AROUND WITH HER BACKPACK YESTER-DAY...
EVEN THOUGH THE NEIGH-BOR-HOOD COMMITTEE WARNED HER NOT TO...
I HEAR OGURA'S STILL FEEDING THE STRAY CATS...
ROOM FOR RENT
LILY STAR

I SAW SOMETHING... ABOUT HALF A YEAR AGO I THINK
SHE'S ALWAYS BEEN STRANGE
THEY MIGHT GET HER, BUT SHE STILL GIVES ME THE CREEPS
WELL, THE ENFORCEMENT IS TODAY, RIGHT?
I DON'T KNOW WHAT SHE WAS DOING BURYING A DEAD BODY MAYBE
SHE WAS COVERED IN MUD...
IS SHE DOING, ANYWAY?
PLEASE INFORM THE HEALTH AND SANITATION DEPARTMENT IF YOU SEE ANY STRAY CATS.
WHAT IN THE WORLD...
IT'S HER.
AHH, LOOK.
DON'T BE RIDICULOUS.

A SWEET, WHAT-EVER.
GIMME SOME-THING.
MS OGURA.
AH!
GIMME.
SOME-THING TO MAKE MY BLOOD BOIL AND SKIN CRAWL.
WHAT' CHA GONNA GIMME ?
EH HEH HEH HEH ...

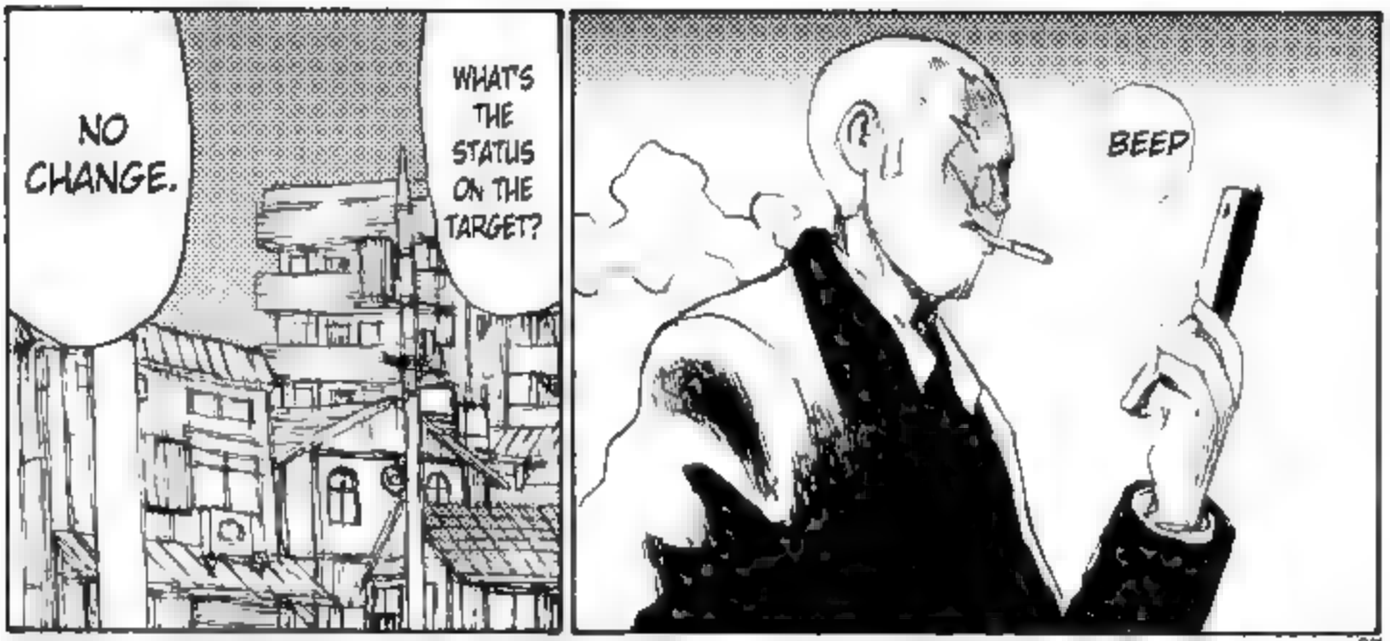

VRRRR
VRRRR
VRR
RR
TIME FOR
A
WEATHER
UPDATE!!

DISASTER SURVIVAL PACKAGE
KNOCK KNOCK
I'M UEHARA. THE COURTS APPOINTED ME AS YOUR BODY-GUARD.
NICE TO MEET YOU.

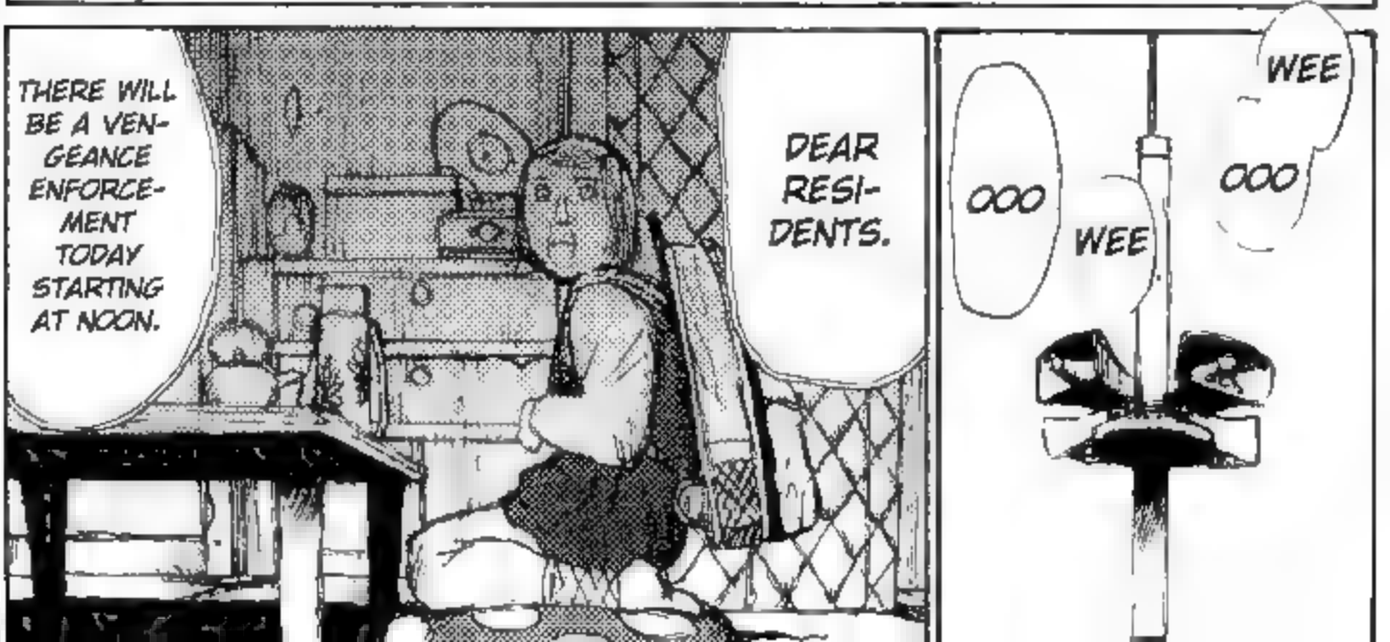
IT'S ABOUT TIME TO START...
WELL, WE'VE BEEN HERE LONG ENOUGH.
WE'LL JUST STICK TO THE PLAN.
YOU EVEN PREPARED TEA FOR US.
WOW, THANKS.
SET YOUR HEART AT EASE.
WE'LL DEFINITELY WIN.
MAKES YOUR HEART FLUTTER, DOESN'T IT?
SLAM

寿
guards bribed
expose!!
Government bodyguards accepting bribes!?
The truth about the Vengeance Act
RUSTLE
25
MIKO
USE

BUT OF COURSE WE DIDN'T EAT ANY.
SHE EVEN PREPARED SOME SNACKS FOR US...
WAHA HAHA HA...
YOU NEVER KNOW... SHE MIGHT HAVE POI-SONED IT!
26
SEE YOU, THEN ...
..... HEH HEH.
JUST GET OUT OF HERE.
ENOUGH BULL SHIT.

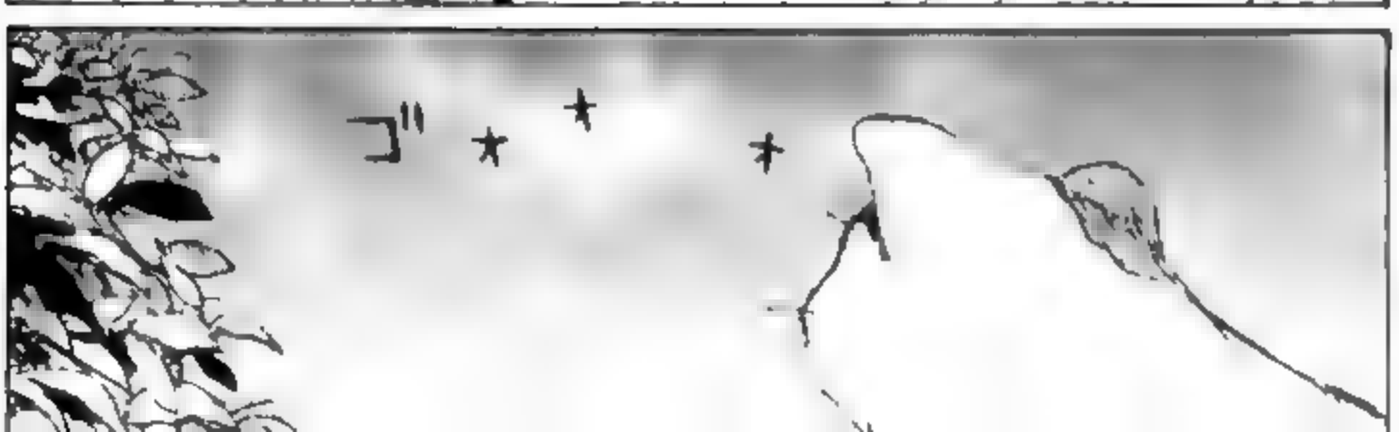

NO CHANGE.
WHAT'S THE STATUS ON THE TARGET?
BEEP

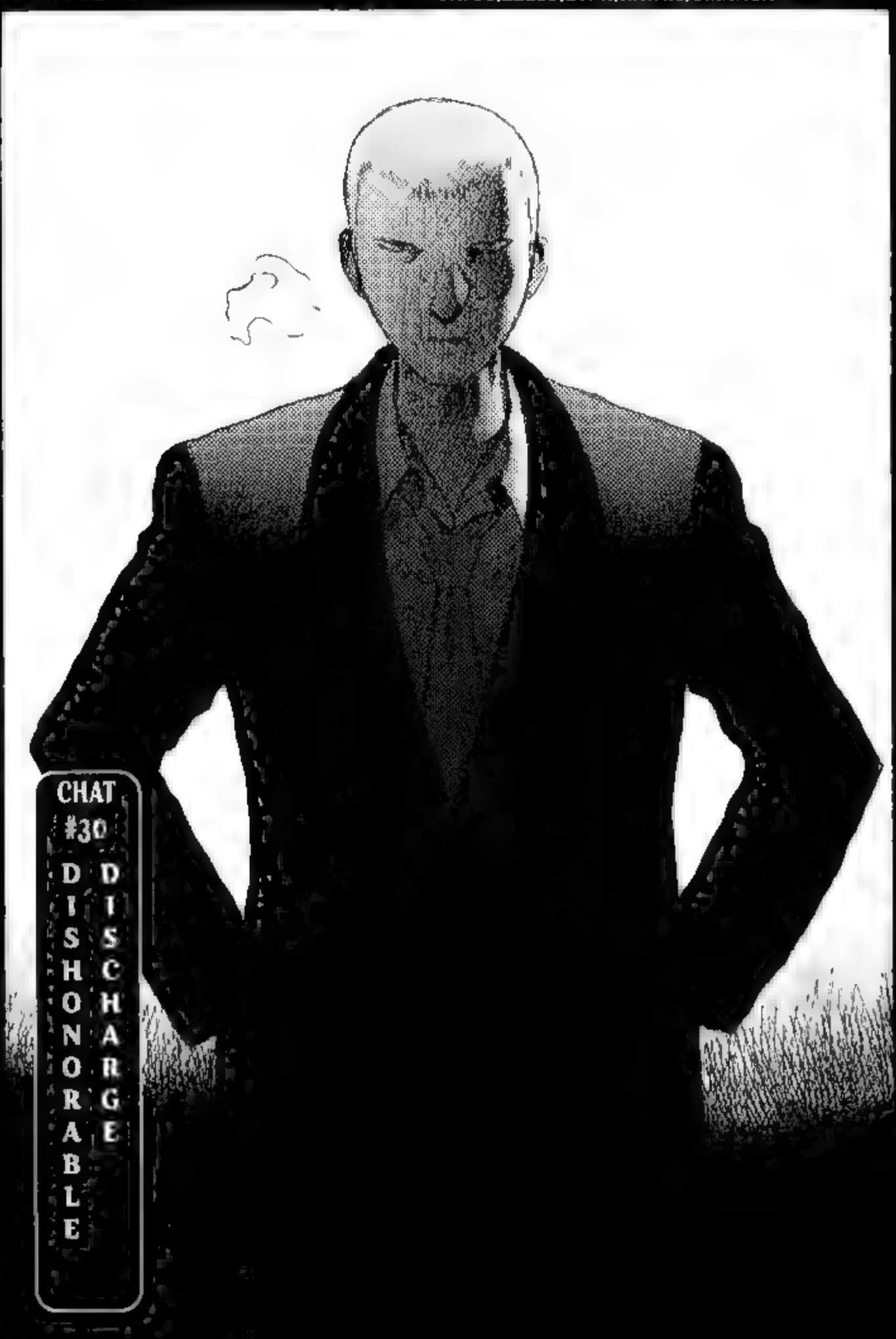
FINISH IT QUICK AND WE'LL HAVE A FEW DRINKS.
LOOKS LIKE A SIMPLE JOB...
WELL, WE'RE PULLING OUT NOW.
MASAE OGURA IS STILL AT HOME.


THERE WILL BE A VENGEANCE ENFORCEMENT TODAY STARTING AT NOON.
DEAR RESIDENTS.
OOO
WEE
WEE
OOO

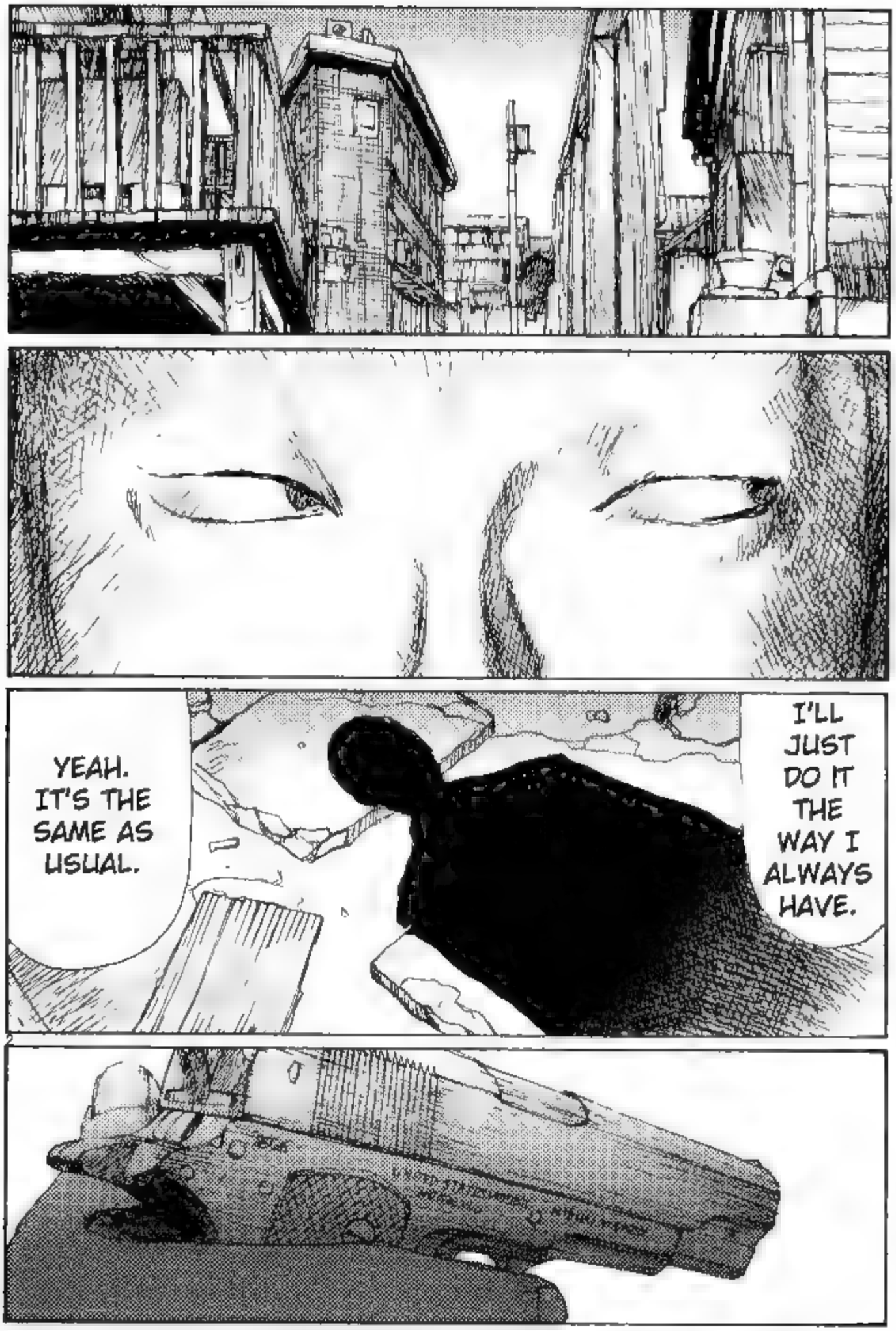
UNTIL WE ANNOUNCE THAT THE ENFORCEMENT HAS ENDED.
ADDITIONALLY, IF YOU WISH TO MAKE ANY NECESSARY PHONE CALLS, PLEASE DO SO WITHIN THE NEXT 2 HOURS.
PLEASE FOLLOW THE INSTRUCTIONS IN THE BOOKLET WE HAVE DISTRIB-UTED...

I REPEAT ...





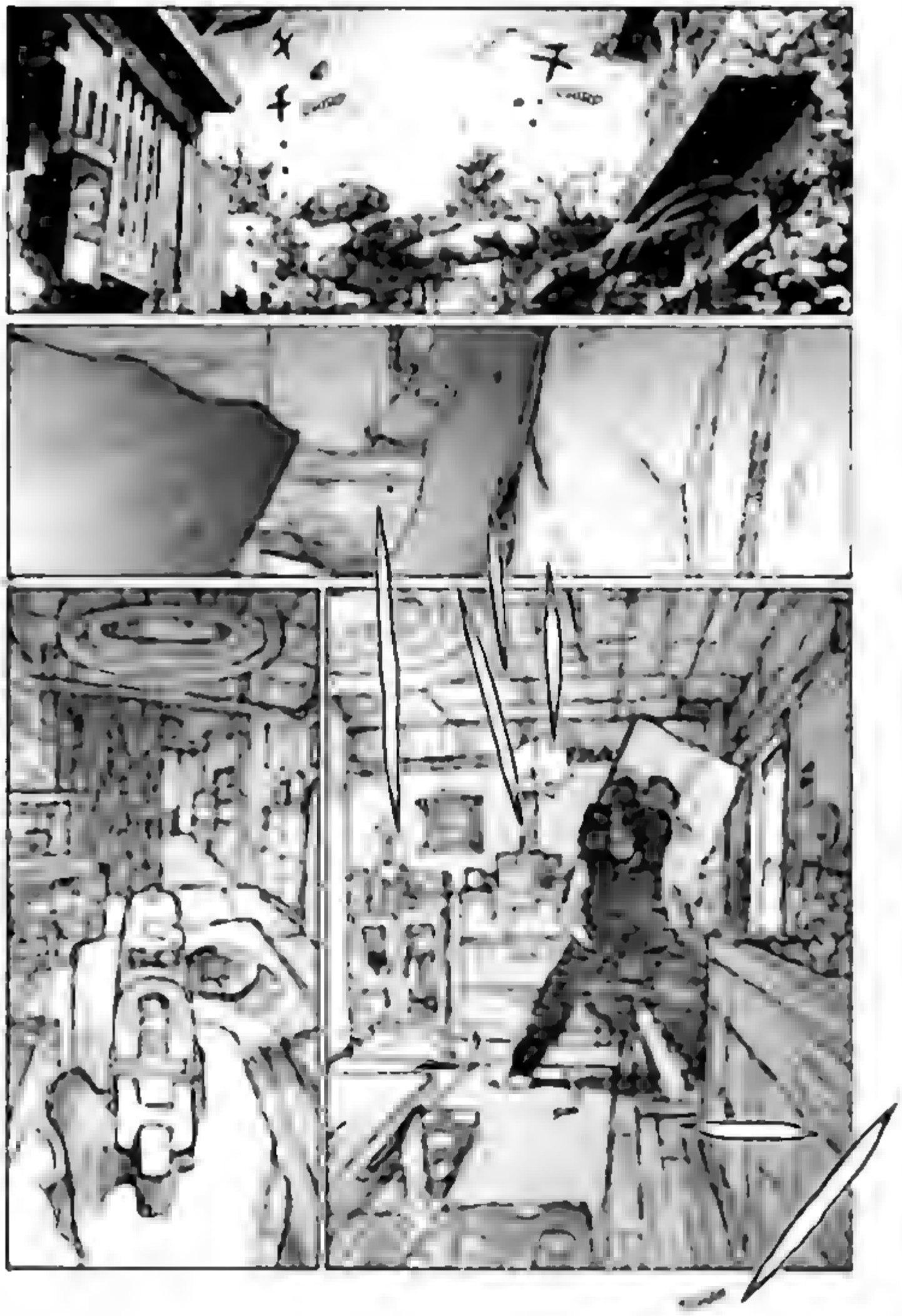
CHAT #30 DISHONORABLE DISCHARGE

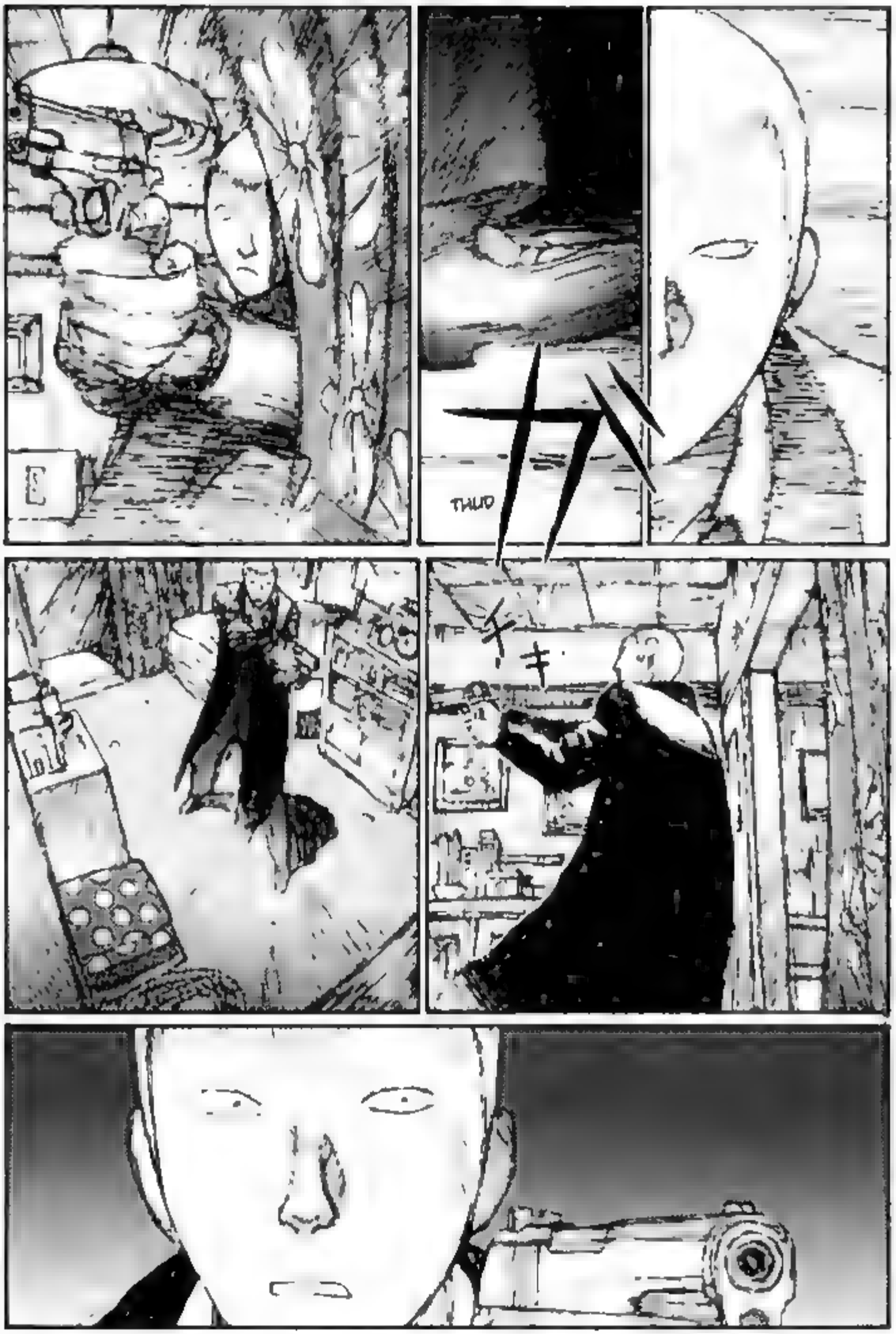

YEAH. IT'S THE SAME AS USUAL.
I'LL JUST DO IT THE WAY I ALWAYS HAVE.

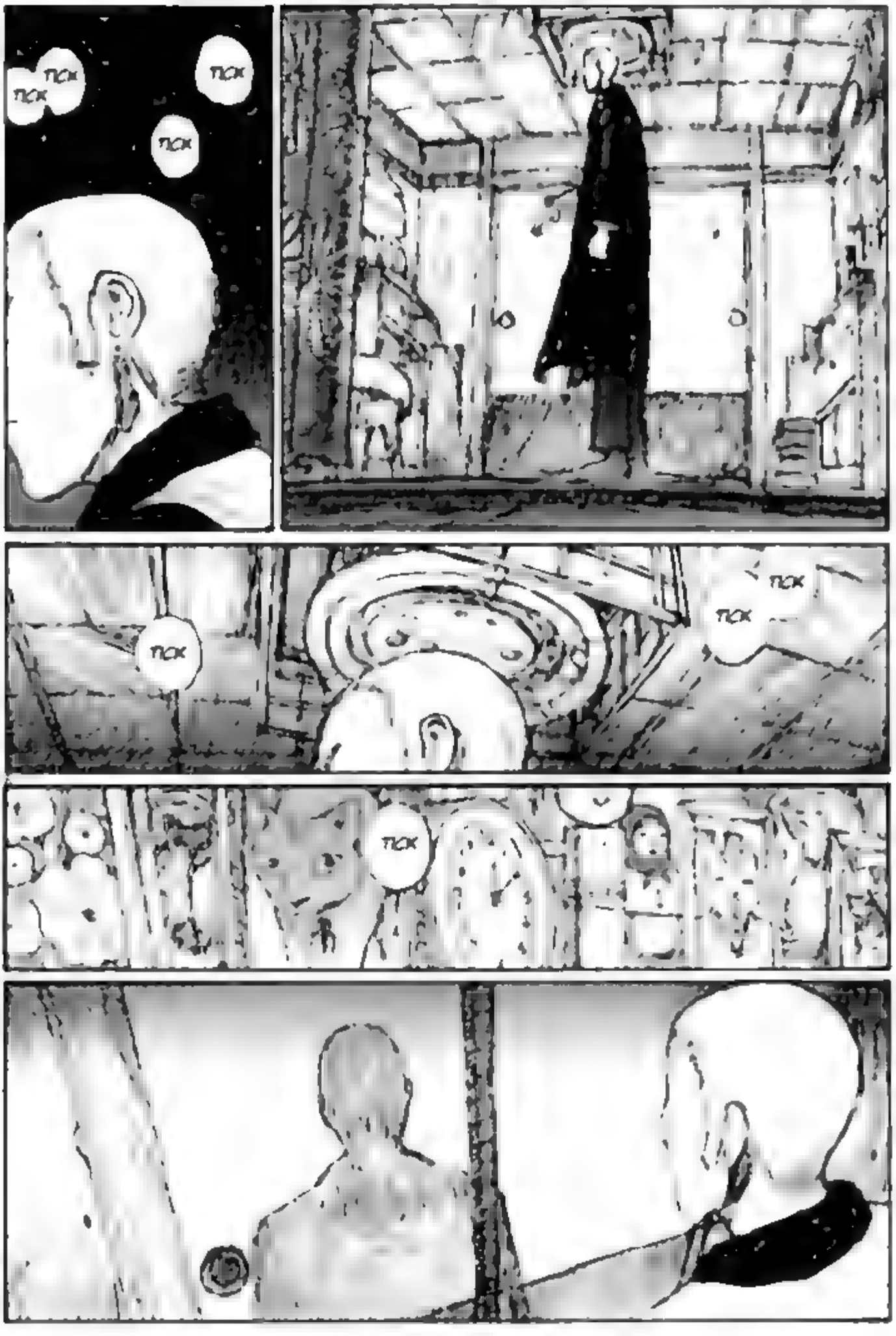
.....
WHAT ARE YOU DOING OVER THERE?
PLEASE INFORM THE HEALTH AND SANITATION DEPARTMENT IF YOU SEE ANY STRAY CATS!
HEY KID.
BECAUSE I SHIT A LOT.
WHY ARE YOU MAKING ONE?
CESS PIT.
AHH --

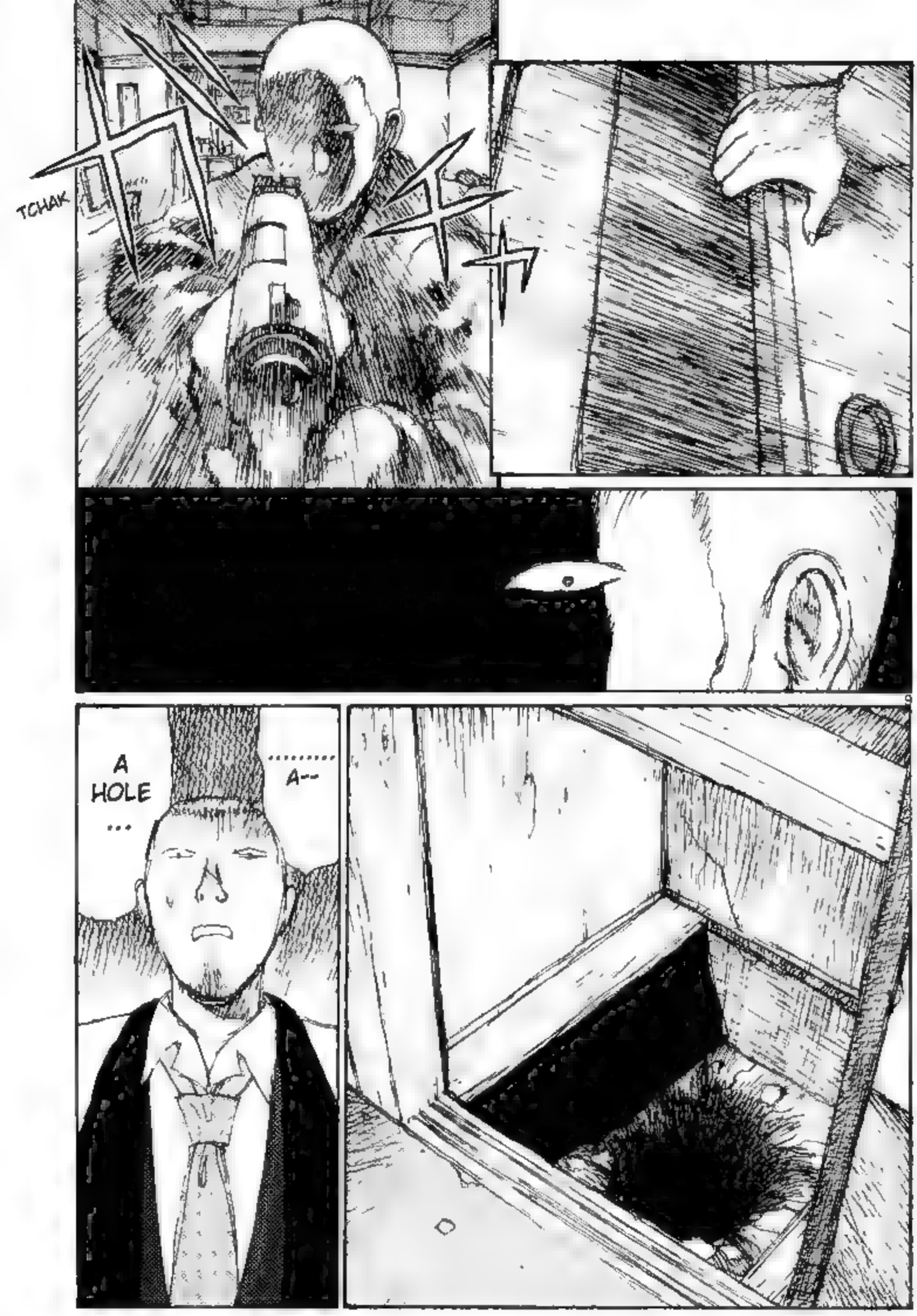
WHY?
OUT OF MY WAY.
MOVE IT.
ARE YOU EVEN LISTEN-ING?
HUH? ARE YOU FULL OF SHIT TOO?
UGH.

!
CRUNCH
ARE THERE STILL STRAY CATS AROUND HERE...?
.....
WITHIN 10 MINUTES.
I'LL FINISH THIS...
OGURA
OGURA

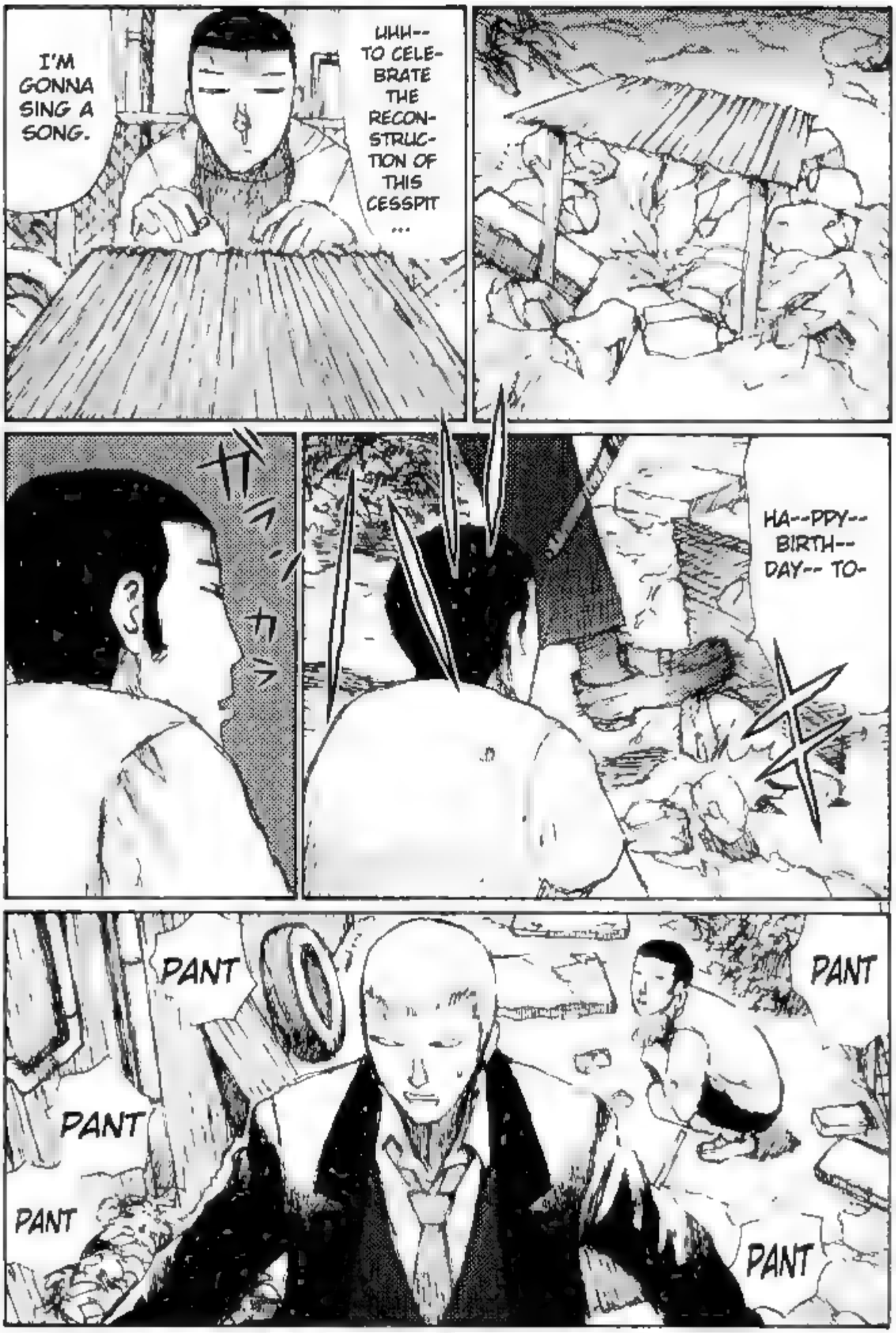



THUD
キキ


TICK
TICK
TICK
TICK
TICK
TICK
TICK


TCHAK
A HOLE ...
A--

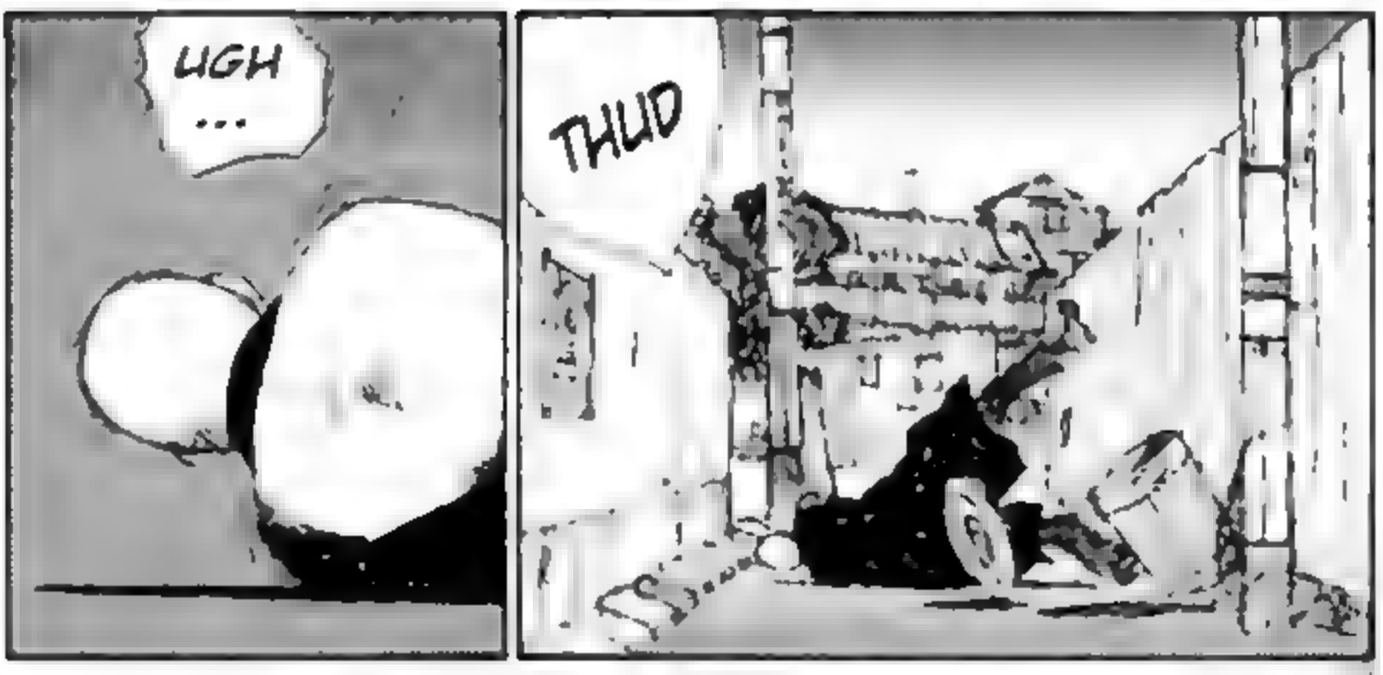
HEH HEH HEH HEH ...
HEH ...
HEH.
SLAM
I'LL KILL YOU! !
YOU OLD HAG !
SHIT !!


I'M GONNA SING A SONG.
UHH-- TO CELE-BRATE THE RECON-STRUC-TION OF THIS CESSPIT ...
ガラ
ガラ
HA--PPY-- BIRTH-- DAY-- TO-
PANT
PANT
PANT
PANT
PANT

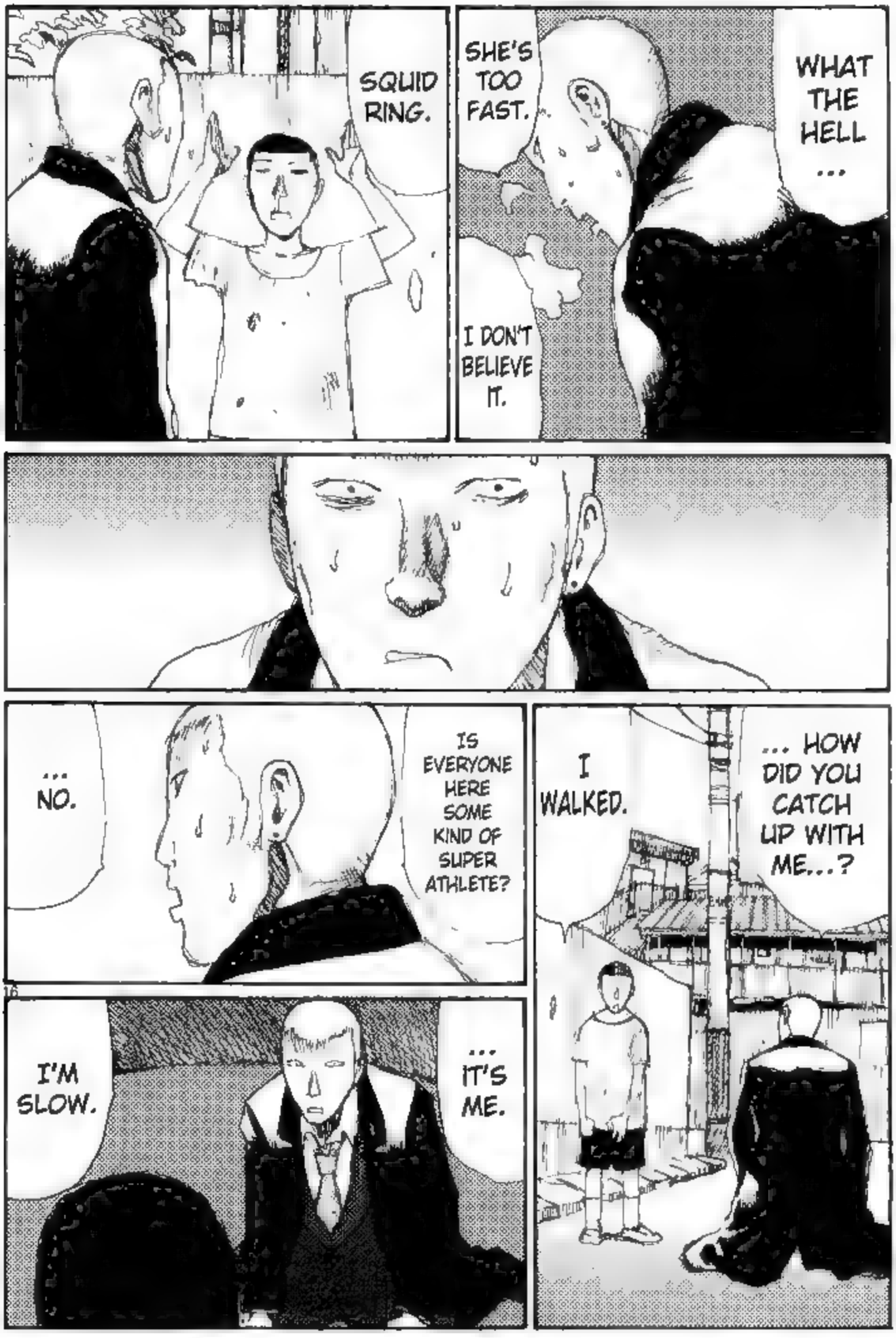
HEY KID! HAVE YOU SEEN THE OLD HAG?!
SHIT !!
WHERE'S THE EXIT?!
SHIT !!
HELI- COP- TER-
AH!
!
TAP

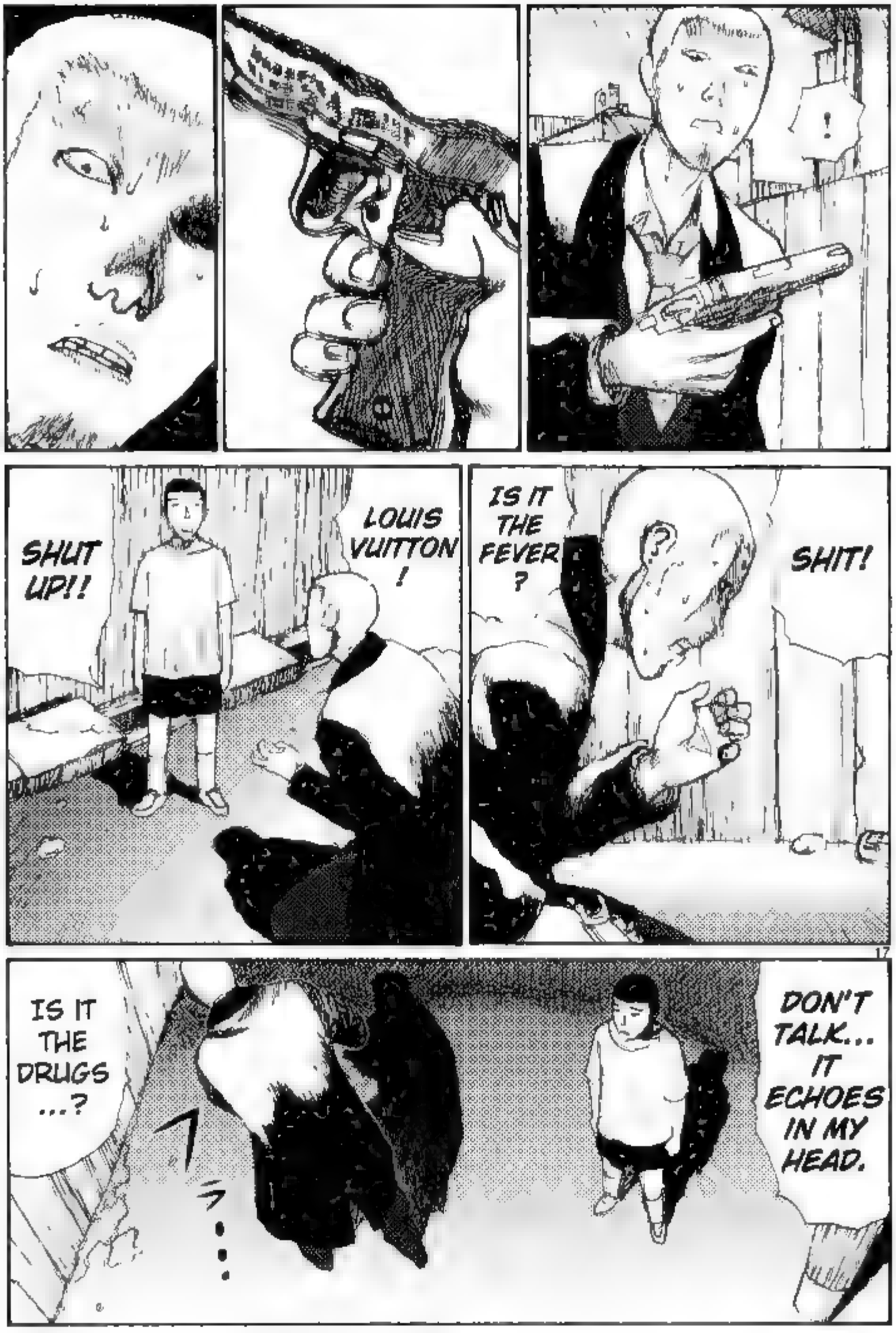
YOU'RE NOT GETTING AWAY!
RUSTLE
WHERE DO YOU THINK YOU'RE GOING!?
STUPID OLD HAG!!
AHH ... SHIT!

I'LL CATCH HER IN NO TIME.
SO SHE'S TRYING TO RUN...
PANT
PANT
PANT
PANT
PANT
PANT


UGH ...
THUD

I CAN'T EVEN CATCH HER..
PANT
PANT
HOW IN THE WORLD ...


SQUID RING.
SHE'S TOO FAST.
I DON'T BELIEVE IT.
WHAT THE HELL ...
... NO.
IS EVERYONE HERE SOME KIND OF SUPER ATHLETE?
I'M SLOW.
... IT'S ME.
I WALKED.
... HOW DID YOU CATCH UP WITH ME...?

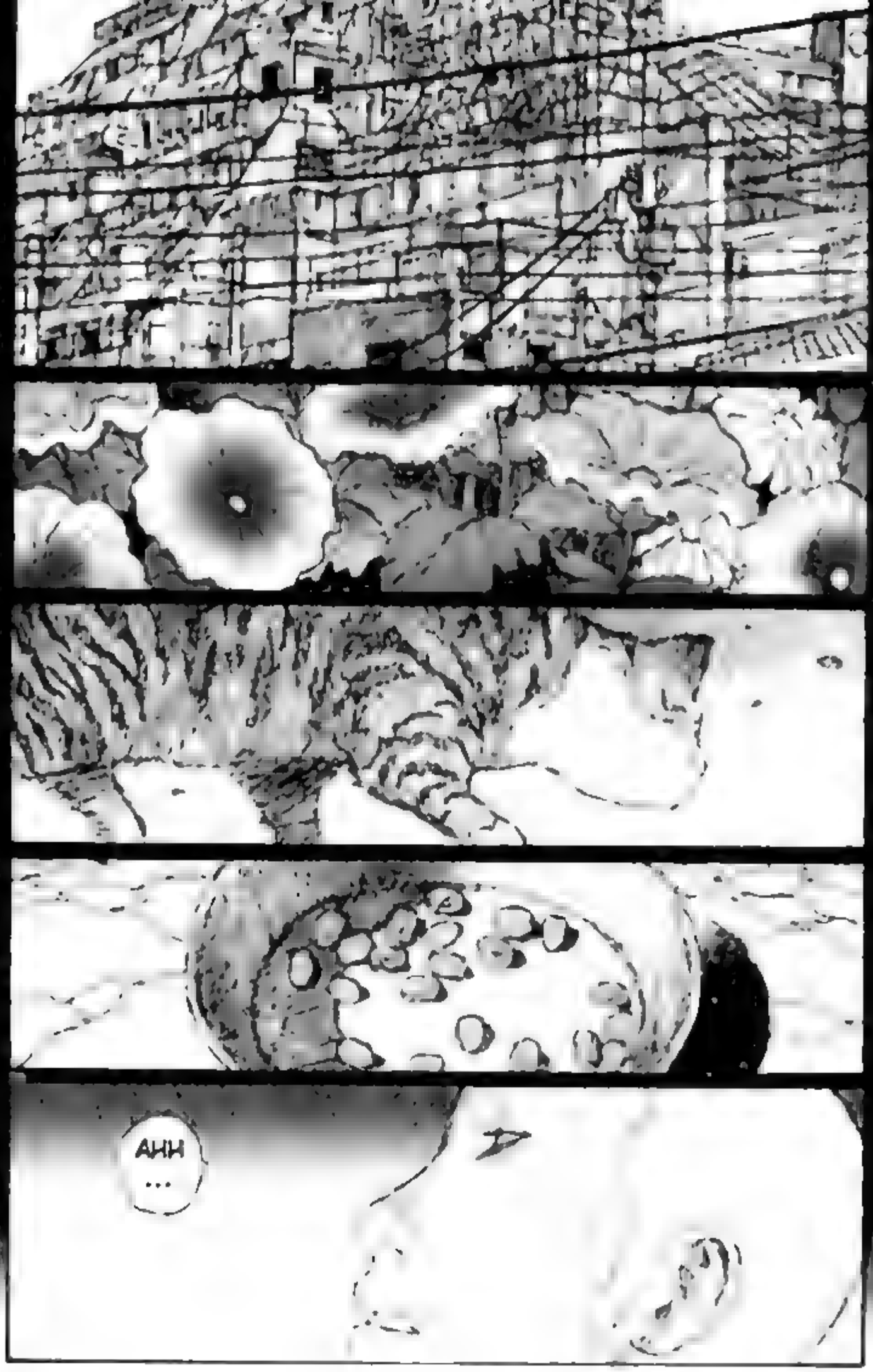

!
SHUT UP!!
LOUIS VUITTON !
IS IT THE FEVER ?
SHIT!
17
IS IT THE DRUGS ...?
DON'T TALK... IT ECHOES IN MY HEAD.

SHIT... I'M SLEEPY ...
MY EYES CAN'T STAY OPEN...
MY LEGS DON'T WANT TO MOVE...
MY BODY FEELS HEAVY...

I CAN'T FALL ASLEEP NOW...
I'M GOING TO LOSE THAT OLD HAG...

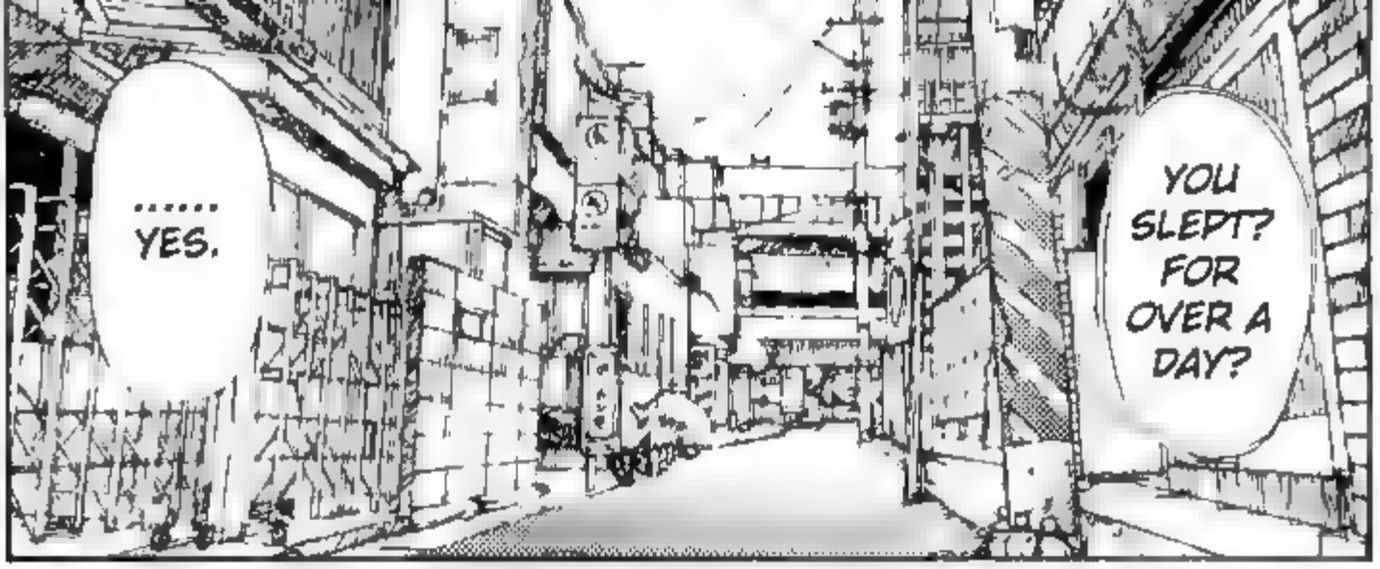
I'LL CONTINUE THE CHASE LATER.. LATER..

WOOOO
WOOOO
WHY ARE YOU ASKING ME THAT...?
.....
COLONEL KURTZ LIVES THERE.
CAN I MAKE A SECRET GRAVE-YARD FOR YOU?
S-- SHUT UP... YOU'RE CRAZY...
GUTEN MORGEN!
THE MORE PISSED OFF I GET...
THE MORE I LOOK AT YOU...


AHH
...

JERK
WHAT THE HELL AM I DOING ...
SHIT... I FELL ASLEEP.
AHH --
SHIT... I'M DIZZY ...
フラ・
I MADE YOUR SECRET GRAVE-YARD-!
I SLEPT FOR 10 MINUTES ...
.....

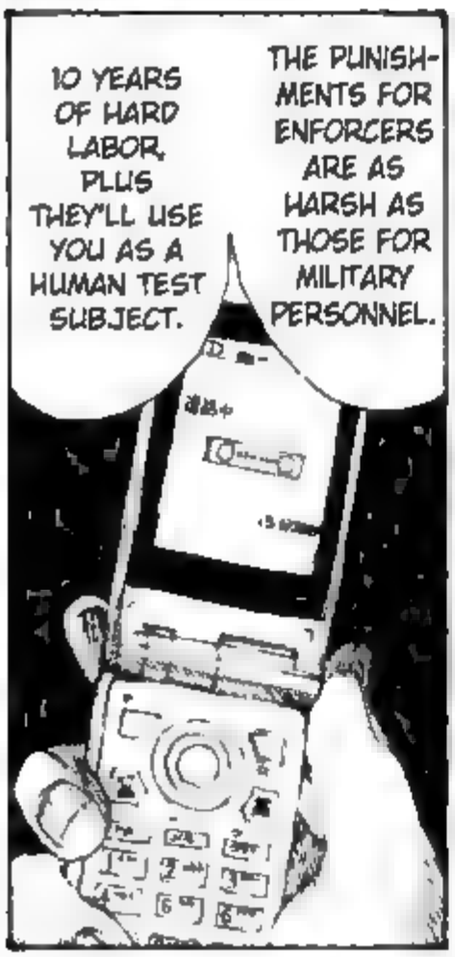
LOOK.
DID IT ALL YESTER-DAY.
YEAH.
YOU DID ALL THAT WHILE I WAS ASLEEP ...?!
I'M THINKING OF MAKING MORE-!
YOU WERE STILL ASLEEP WHEN I GOT HERE TODAY.
WHAT DID YOU SAY?
... HUH?


YOU SLEPT? FOR OVER A DAY?
..... YES.

I DON'T KNOW WHAT YOU WANT ME TO DO...
BUT DO YOU KNOW HOW MUCH TROUBLE YOU'RE IN?

YOU'VE ONLY GOT HALF A DAY TO COMPLETE THE ENFORCE-MENT.
I KNOW!

23

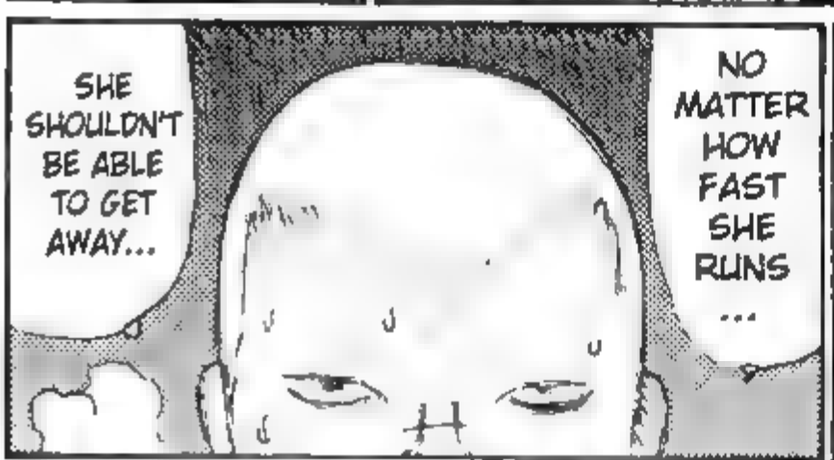

THE PUNISH-MENTS FOR ENFORCERS ARE AS HARSH AS THOSE FOR MILITARY PERSONNEL.
10 YEARS OF HARD LABOR, PLUS THEY'LL USE YOU AS A HUMAN TEST SUBJECT.

YOU'RE NOT SIMPLY GOING TO GET FIRED.
REMEMBER ALL THE PROBLEMS YOU CAUSED BEFORE? THE POLICE HAVEN'T MOVED IN ON YOU BECAUSE THE BOSS HAS BEEN FENDING THEM OFF.
IF YOU SCREW THIS ONE UP, YOU'LL BE FIRED AND ARRESTED !

I'M JUST WARNING YOU.
DON'T GET ME WRONG.
OH NO.
ARE YOU THREAT-ENING ME?
... HIGUCHI.
AND I'M STILL SICK...
GEEZE ... I SLEPT SO MUCH...
COUGH!
BLARGGH

WHEN ONE GEAR MALFUNC-TIONS...
OTHERS ALSO SPIN OUT OF CONTROL.

PANT
PANT
PANT


NO MATTER HOW FAST SHE RUNS ...
SHE SHOULDN'T BE ABLE TO GET AWAY...

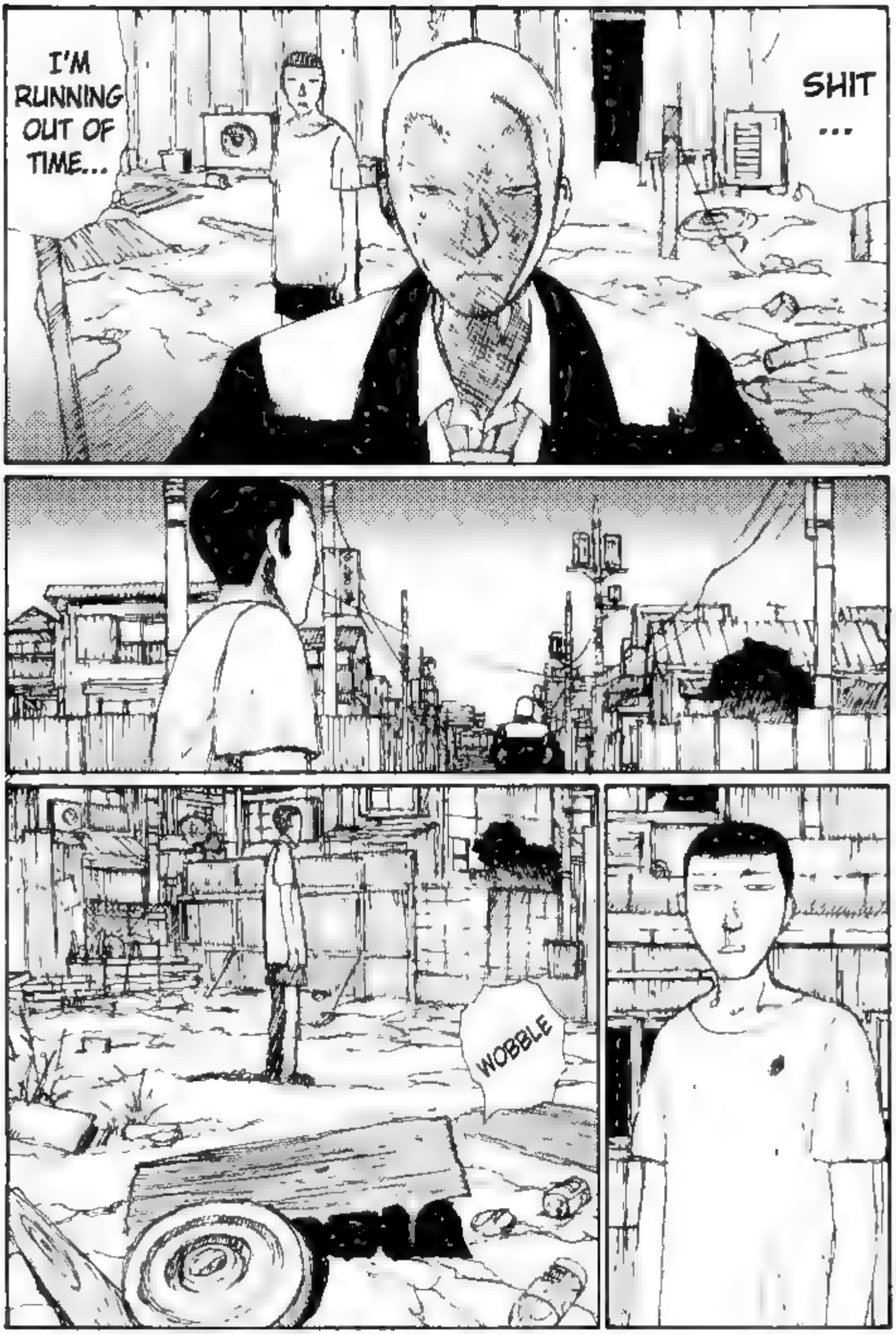
THERE'S REALLY NOWHERE TO RUN AND HIDE...
IN A SMALL TOWN LIKE THIS...

IN FRONT OF THAT OLD HAG'S HOUSE TOO...
I SAW THAT CAT DISH ...
CLINK
CLINK
HISS
IT'S MOIST ...

WHAT DO YOU WANT ?
YOU AGAIN ?
ARE YOU AN ENFORCER ?
STOP GETTING IN MY WAY IF YOU KNOW WHY I'M HERE.
AND SO?
ABOUT VEN-GEANCE KILLING ...
I HEARD MY MUM TALKING THE OTHER DAY...
SHIT... I SHOULDN'T HAVE TAKEN ALL THOSE DRUGS...
BUT MY SENSES FEEL DULLED ...
IT'S LIKE I'M ON TO SOME-THING...
STRANGE ...

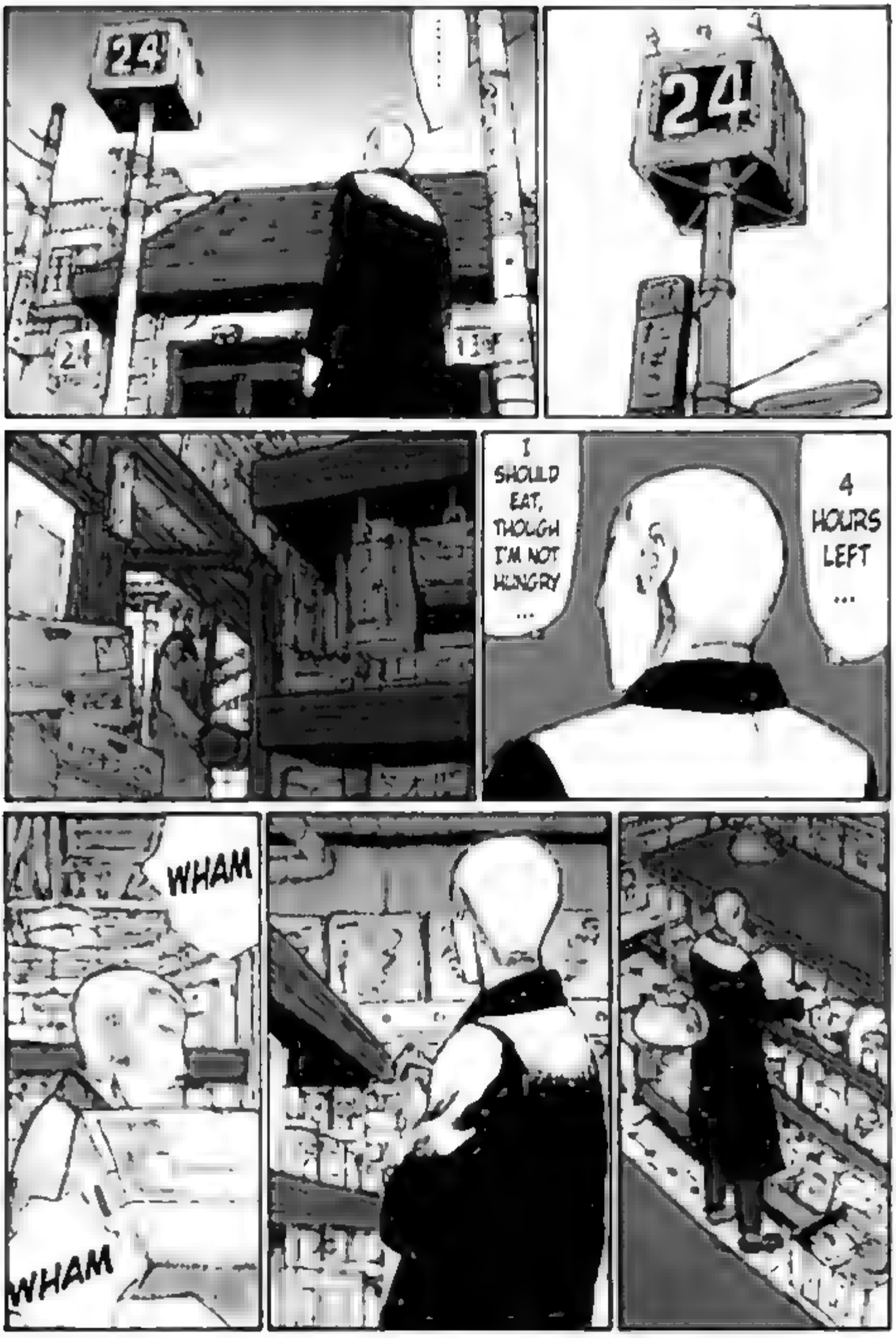
SHUT THE HELL UP!!
YOU'RE PLAYING HIDE AND SEEK WITH HER, RIGHT ...?
I'LL KILL YOU AS WELL AS THAT OLD HAG!
STOP FOLLOWING ME AROUND!
I'M RUNNING OUT OF TIME...
DAMN IT...
CLUNK

HAWKS OMANGA
ZZLED GATSU ZYPH


I'M RUNNING OUT OF TIME...
SHIT ...
WOBBLE

MS OGURA.
OTEGARU
CAT BOTTLE

TWIST


24
24
24
I SHOULD EAT, THOUGH I'M NOT HUNGRY ...
4 HOURS LEFT ...
WHAM
WHAM

WHAM WHAM WHAM
HEY, DON'T HIT THE XEROX MACHINE !
DAMMIT ...
AND THE MILK..
BEEP
LET'S SEE... A FRUIT SANDWICH AND A CURRY BUN.
DO YOU KNOW MASAE OGURA ?
I HAVE A QUES-TION..
YOU DON'T NEED IT HEATED UP, DO YOU?
NO, IT'S FINE.
THAT'S 492 YEN.
WHY?
WHO ARE YOU?
OGURA ?

...
HUH?
THE BOSS IS SUCH A MONEY GRUBBER THAT HE STILL MADE US WORK TODAY...
IT'S YOUR CHOICE... THE OTHER SHOPS ARE ALL CLOSED. THERE'S AN ENFORCE-MENT ON TODAY.
DO YOU WANT ME TO BUY THIS OR NOT?
THAT'S NOT THE POINT!!
YOU DON'T LOOK WELL ...
WELL ?!
DO YOU KNOW HER OR NOT?
YOU ARE, AREN'T YOU!!
WAIT A MINUTE! ARE YOU THE ENFORCER ?!
WE'VE EVEN GOT ONE OF YOSHIO NOMURA FROM 'THE GOODBYE'.
.....
WE SELL AUTO-GRAPHS HERE.
I'LL TELL YOU, BUT I WANT YOUR AUTOGRAPH FIRST.
WHAT ?!

NOTE: 'THE GOODBYE' WAS AN 80'S J-ROCK GROUP.

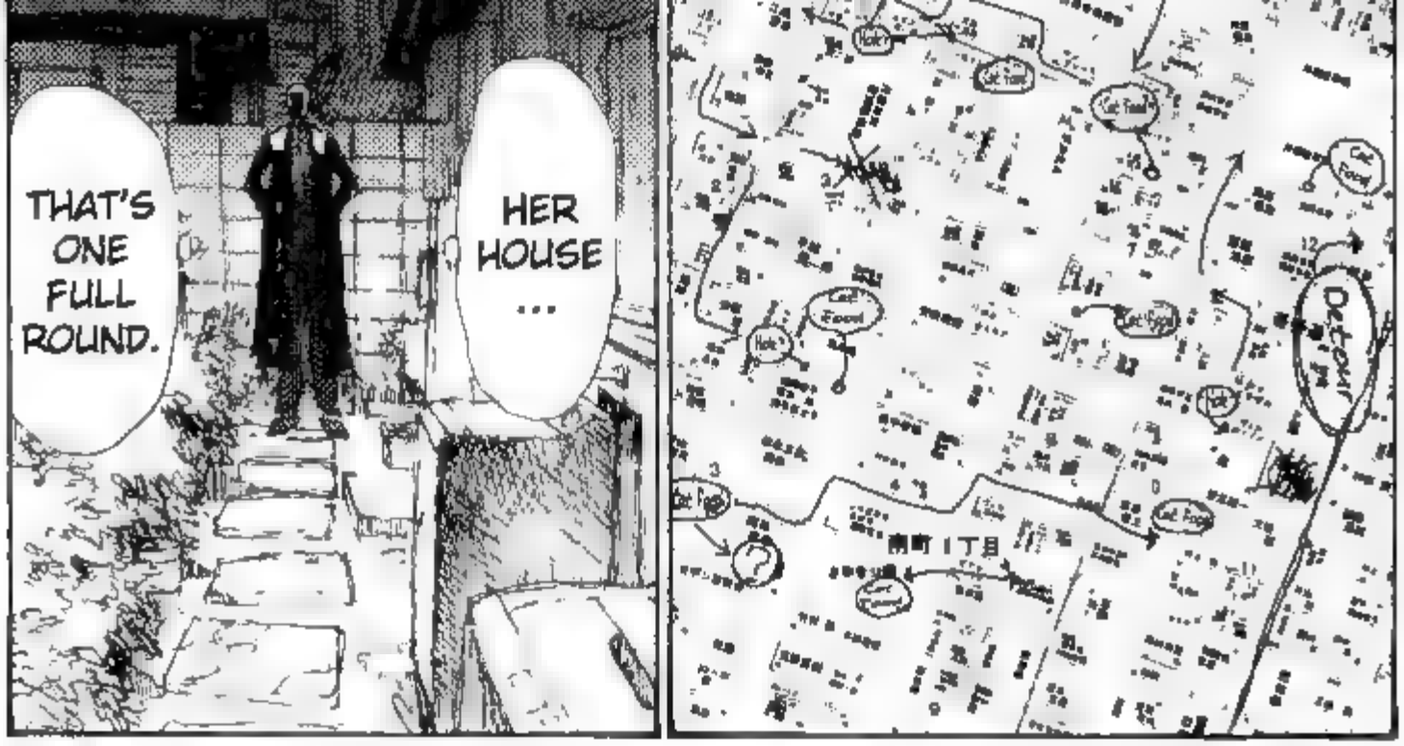
FROM THE KATSUMI PROXY VENGEANCE ENFORCEMENT OFFICE
MASAKI MIZOGUCHI
TO THE CLERK AT THE STORE '24'
AWESOME--
THAT DRY, YELLOW, CRUNCHY STUFF?
BUT, WE..L, SHE BUYS THE CAT FOOD FROM US, SO THAT'S ALL RIGHT.
FEEDING STRAY CATS ALL OVER THE PLACE.
SHE'S A TROUBLE-SOME WOMAN..
BUT THAT WAS SOME TIME BACK.
SHE USED TO WANDER AROUND AT NIGHT, COVERED IN MUD AND CARRYING A SHOVEL.
EVERYONE THOUGHT SHE KILLED SOMEONE AGAIN.
HAS SHE DONE ANY-THING ELSE ODD?
SHE GETS A BULK DISCOUNT ON IT...
YEAH, YOU'VE SEEN IT, HUH?

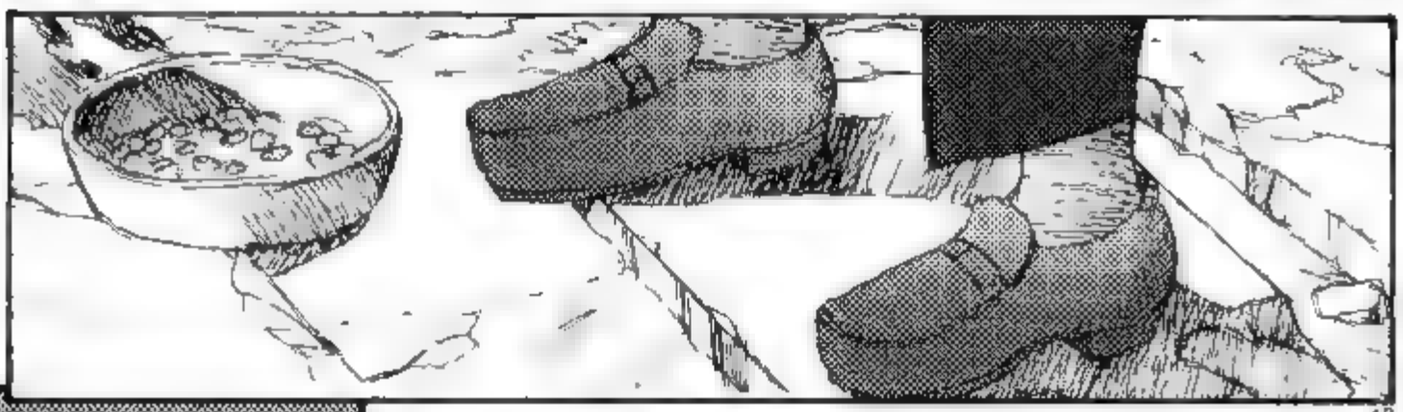
THANKS.
YEAH ...
IS IT ENOUGH ?
WELL, THAT'S ALL I'VE HEARD.
SO IT'S NOT JUST THAT TUNNEL IN THE CLOSET ...?
WHAM
WHAM
GEEZE
24
.....
24
WHAM!
WHAM

I WAS HERE JUST A MINUTE AGO...
BUT IT WAS MOIST A SHORT WHILE BACK..
IT'S DRY.
IF SO...
SO SHE WAS JUST HERE...?

CLUNK
は！？
は！？
CLANG
BUT HOW MANY TUNNELS AND FEEDING SPOTS ARE THERE?
SO SHE'S HIDING ...

PANT
PANT
IT'S QUITE FASCI-NATING.
NONCHA-LANTLY AND METHODI-CALLY.
SHE'D BEEN DOING IT OVER SEVERAL YEARS...
YOU'RE NOT SIMPLY GOING TO GET FIRED.
BUT DO YOU KNOW HOW MUCH TROUBLE YOU'RE IN?


THAT'S ONE FULL ROUND.
HER HOUSE ...
Detour
南町1丁目

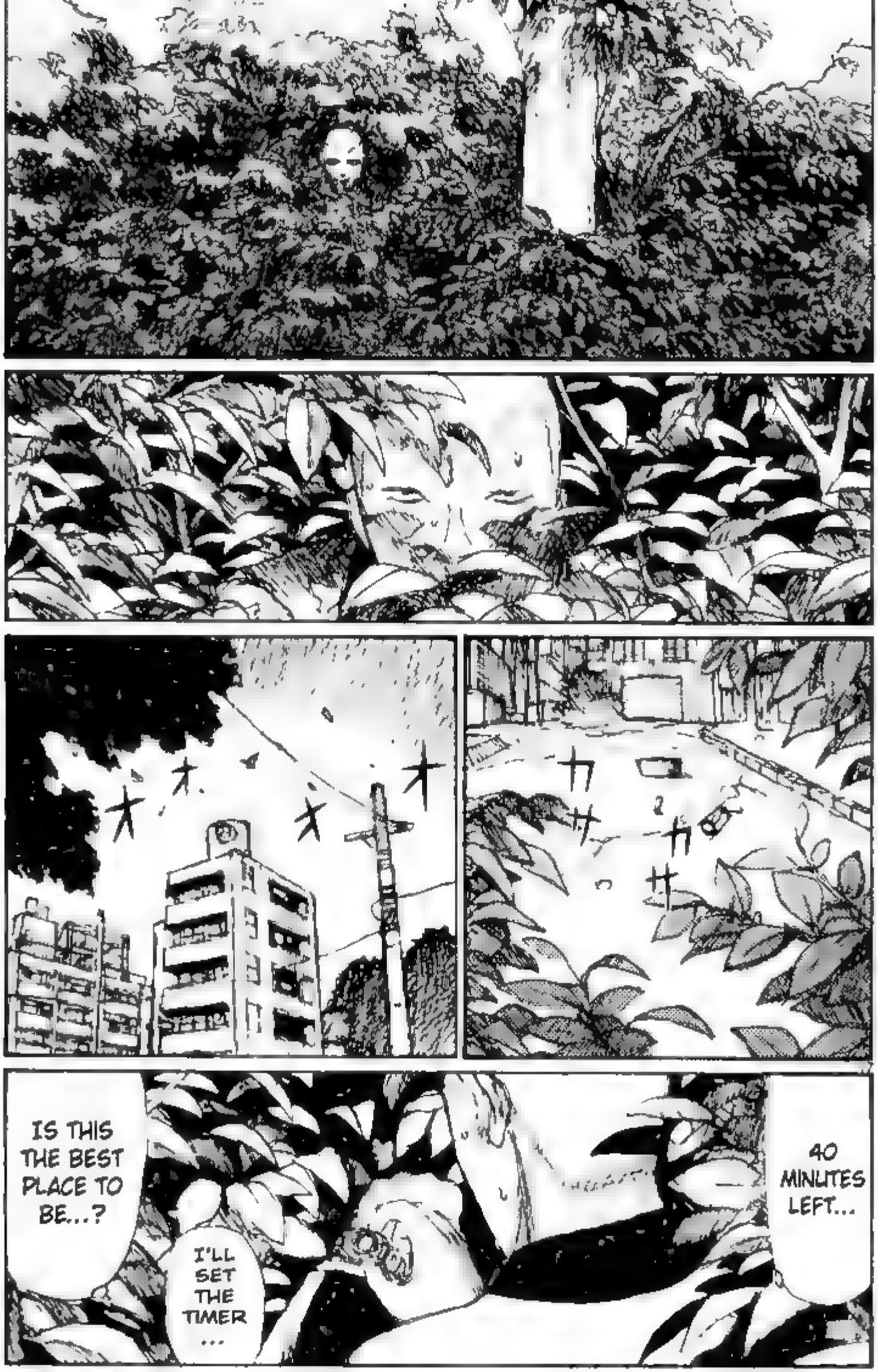


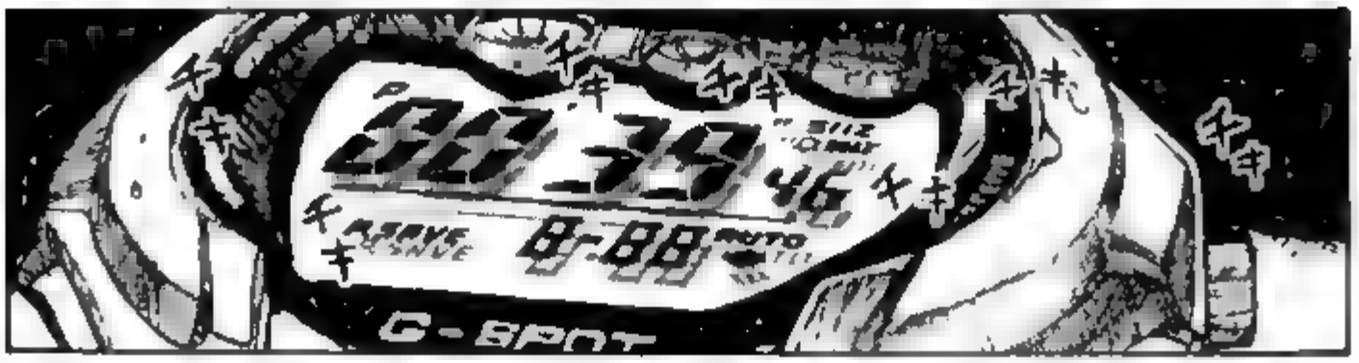
WHAM
WHAM
WHAM
WHAM
WHY THE HELL IS SHE STILL FEEDING THOSE CATS?
IS SHE LOOKING DOWN ON ME ...?
WHICH MEANS SHE'S ALSO WALKING AROUND.
THIS IS FRESH ...

WHAM
WHAM
STOP THAT.
BITCH ...
I REALLY NEED TO GO TO THE HOSPI-TAL...
LOOKS LIKE ...
SHIT ...
.....

SHE TAKES ABOUT AN HOUR TO MAKE ONE ROUND.
JUDGING FROM THE CAT FOOD...
BUT WHAT DO I DO IF SHE DECIDES TO SKIP THE ONE I CHOOSE?
I'LL PROBABLY STAKE OUT 1 OF THESE 3 LOCATIONS...
AND I ONLY HAVE AN HOUR LEFT... SHE MIGHT NOT EVEN BE THERE IN TIME.
IF THERE WERE 3 OF US, IT'D BE POSSIBLE TO WATCH ALL 3 PLACES.
GOT... IT
KEEP A TIGHT WATCH!
DOING THIS JOB ALONE WAS A BAD IDEA...
IF I DON'T DO THIS WITHIN THE HOUR, I'LL BE FINISHED...
BUT I'M OUT OF OPTIONS.

OR SHE MIGHT GET AWAY ...
I'LL HAVE TO FIND HER BEFORE SHE POURS OUT THE CAT FOOD...
RUSTLE
CAT FOOD


IS THIS THE BEST PLACE TO BE...?
I'LL SET THE TIMER ...
40 MINUTES LEFT...


C-SPOT

I HAVEN'T BEEN WRONG ...
AND THIS TIME WON'T BE ANY DIFFERENT.

I'VE ALWAYS DONE IT THIS WAY...
AND IT'S WORKED FOR ME.

I SHOULD JUST STOP WONDER-ING ABOUT IT.
THERE'S NO WAY TO KNOW...

THAT BASTARD ...

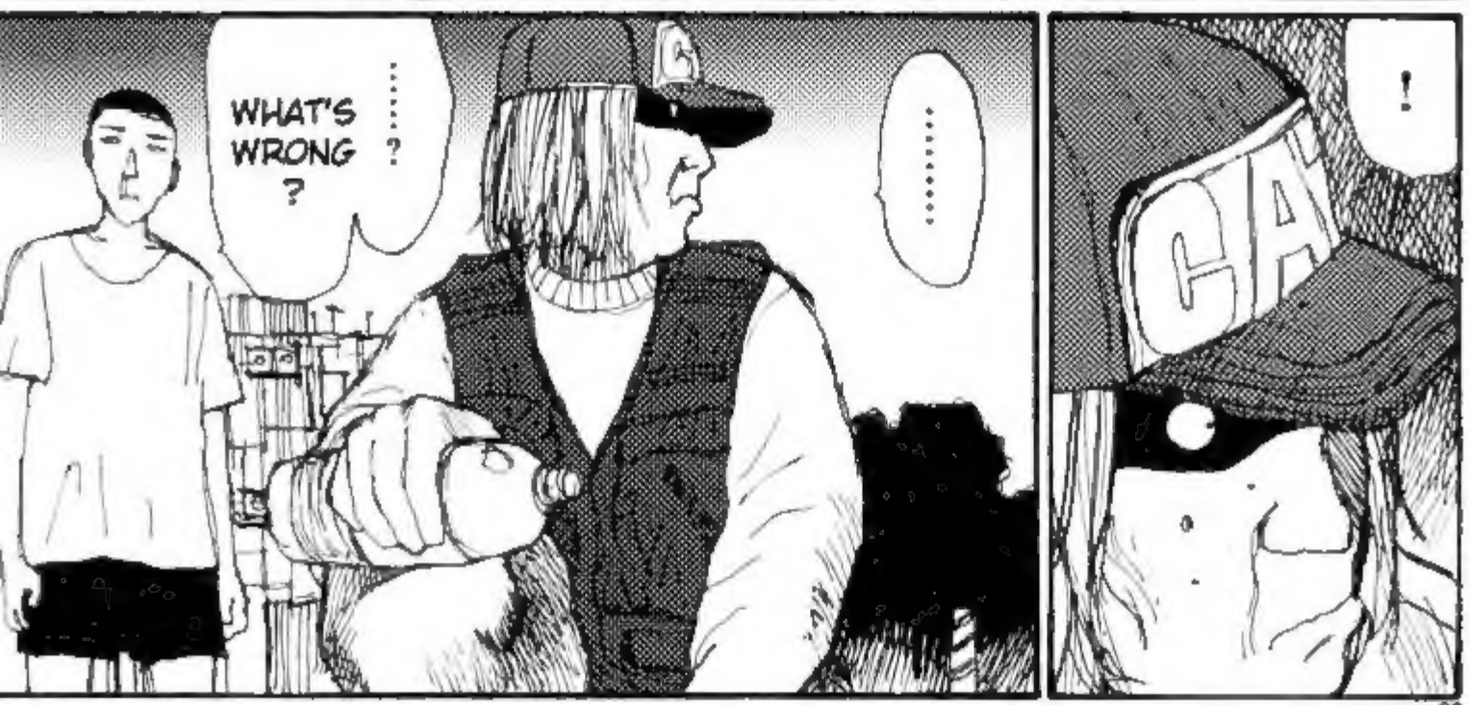
I'M NOT LIKE YOU. I CAN TELL WHAT'S REAL FROM WHAT'S NOT.
YOU DON'T FOOL ME. YOU'RE NOT REALLY HERE.
IF I DON'T DO IT, MY DAYS ARE NUMBERED.
BUT I'LL SAY THIS MUCH.
IT'S NOT A QUESTION OF WHETHER I'M GOOD ENOUGH TO HUNT YOU DOWN OR NOT.
ARE THE TERMINAL SYMPTOMS.
WHAT MY BODY IS EXPERIENC-ING RIGHT NOW...
NO DOUBT ABOUT IT... THE TERMINAL SYMP-TOMS.

THOSE BLOODY DRUGS ...
THE BROKEN XEROX MACHINES ...
THAT KID...
ALL THESE FRUS-TRAT-ING THINGS
THAT PSYCHIA-TRIST...
TAP
OH YES ...
THAT OLD HAG TOO...
THIS JOB'S NOTHING MORE THAN ANOTHER MANIFESTA-TION OF THE SYMPTOMS.

KILLING HER WON'T SOLVE ANY-THING... IT'S KANO. HE'S THE ONE I HAVE TO KILL...
IT DOESN'T REALLY MATTER WHETHER I DO IT OR NOT.
WHY CAN'T I EVEN FINISH THIS JOB?
HMM.. WHAT WAS IT... I DON'T REMEM-BER..
HOW DID IT EVER COME DOWN TO THIS...?
BUT... IT'S STRANGE ...
I GIVE UP...
PLAYING TAG WITH THAT OLD HAG... RIDICU-LOUS.
NO... THIS ISN'T GOOD...
WELL, IT DOESN'T REALLY MATTER ...
WELL, WHAT-EVER..

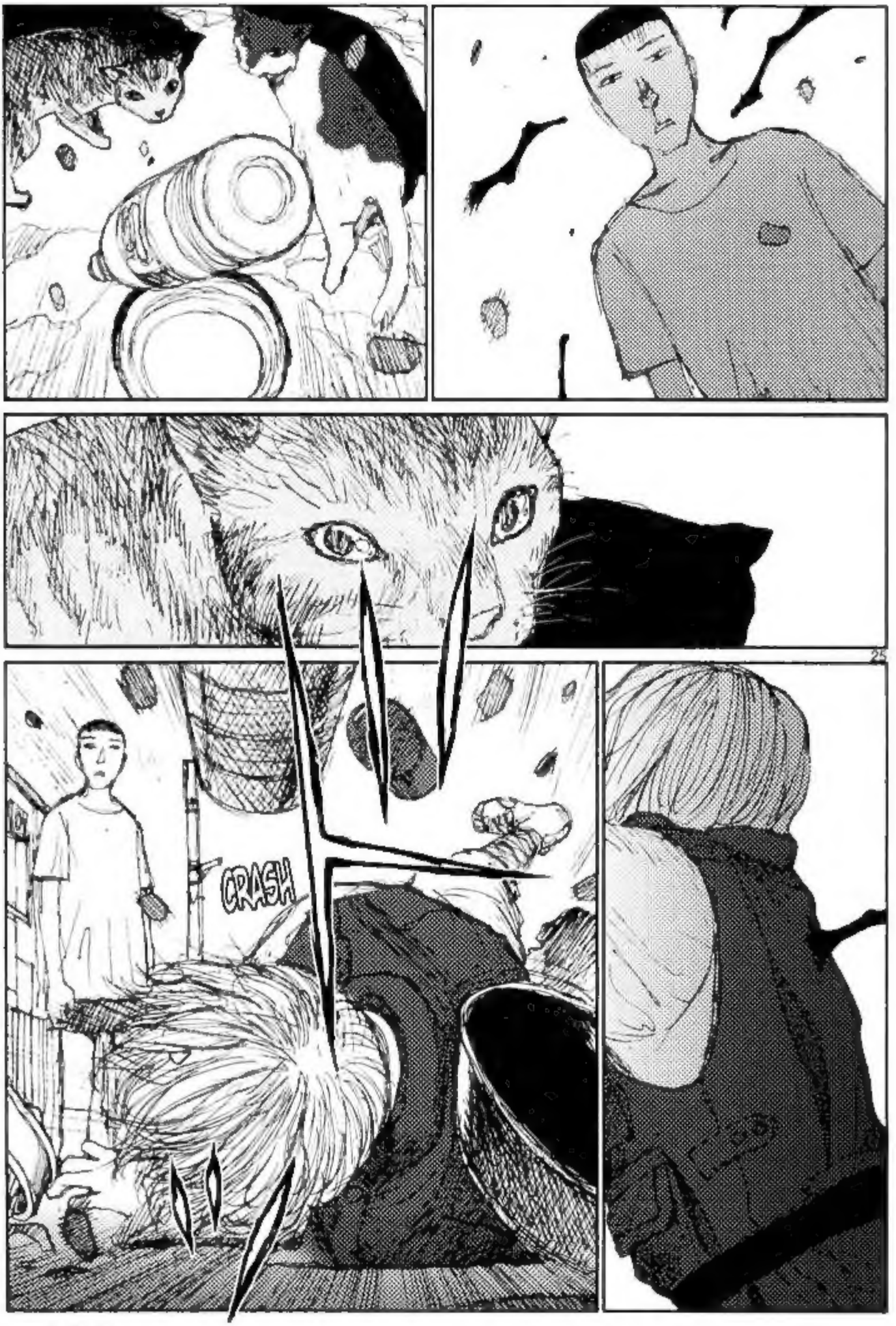
IT'S NO GOOD... NOTHING'S MAKING SENSE...
CAT
RUSTLE

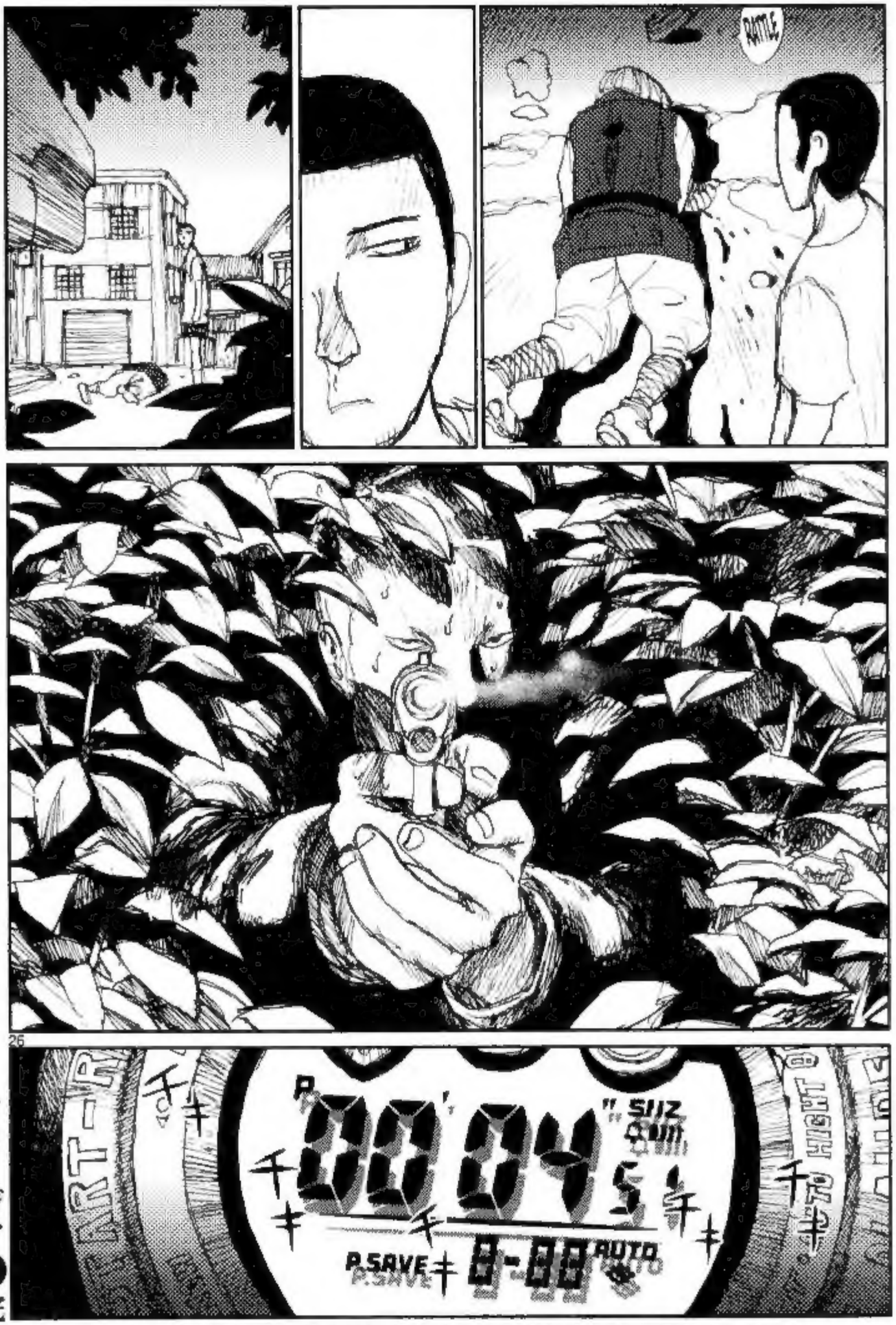
EH HEH HEH ...
BUT IF YOU GIMME SOME-THING, I WON'T TELL HER..
THAT'S WHAT MY MOTHER SAID.
YOU SHOULDN'T FEED CATS.


WHAT'S WRONG ?
.....?
.....
!
CAT

CAT
MEOW
CAT

RATTLE
CAT
BANG


CRASH



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